



The Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc.

Margaret Oppen Competition 2019 – Artist Statements - Traditional

T1 ELIZABETH PRICE - WONDERWOMAN

Wonder Woman is a comic book superhero who was the lead character in an anthology called Sensation Comics that ran from 1942 to 1952. She was the first major female comic superhero, appearing only 2 years after Batman.

T2 ALICE KNEIPP - BRAILLE

The inspiration for this piece is the way that sensory input translates directly to meaning in our mind. As the hand feels the physical sensation of the braille text, it is translated by the reader into a visual perception of the story being told. In this way, the piece represents two different (but inherently linked) aspects of sensations: physical touch and an understanding of the physical input.

T3 CATHERINE PATTERSON - A CHILD'S JOY - THE MERRY GO ROUND

A show provides so much stimulation for all your senses. And what is more exciting than your first ride on a merry-go-round? The joys of a child experiencing their first ride at a show is the inspiration for this piece. The deep blue silk fabric creates the sense of an early morning scene, with the hot-air balloons circling above the merry-go-round which will soon see the excited cries of joy of children. The use of silk threads using traditional surface-work stitches, combined with gold-work threads, help to give the piece the precious feeling felt by a child enjoying the show.

T4 HEATHER GRANT - SENSATIONS ON AN INDIAN JOURNEY

During a recent journey through India many sensations were experienced. Everywhere one sights colourful clothes worn by the Indians. The noise of honking horns is deafening. Cooking smells (and petrol fumes) abound. Spicy food challenges one's taste. The texture in textiles, and the temple marble carvings were great to touch. I chose to embroider a Toran, to include items representing the sensations I experienced each day – using a variety of threads for texture. Open chain stitch is prevalent in their embroidery – as well as shisha mirrors. I tried to use the simple techniques we saw in my Toran.

T5 LINDA TAGLIERI - TERRAN CONQUEST PROCLAMATION

Not one, but two, species of aliens invading Earth would cause a sensation! Sensations of terror and grief for the Terrans and of triumph for the conquerors. Since the Srr*tz overlords require a formal document for their Central Repository, I thought the formal and lavish, yet often subversive and fantastical, style of medieval illumination apt, because the world overturned was a popular theme. Lustrous silk displaces vellum and hand-sewing hand-writing. I chose a dark background for the nocturnal Vostinaï's page and light for the desert-dwelling Lescarl, and included appropriate symbolism. Many of the plants depicted are predatory or poisonous.

T6 MARGARET ROLFE - MAGIC ARBOUR

The aim of this work was to illustrate the sensations and feelings engendered by the magic of gardens, highlighting the sensations of nature in a visual and tactile manner. The use of the crazy quilting technique enabled the ability to use fabrics with different qualities of touch and colour including silks, satin, rayon, cotton and velvets. These sensations are further enhanced by surface seam embroidery which was embellished with silk ribbon work, beads, and beaded sequins to provide texture and sparkle all of which contributed to adding to the three-dimensional quality of the embroidery. The addition of floral, insect and butterfly motifs and especially the central beaded butterfly were used to represent the magical sense of life inherent in nature and gardens.

T7 MARGARET ROOKLEDGE - A LACE GARDEN

For centuries lace has evoked a sense of beauty, wealth, purity, romance, grace and sensuality. A sense of peace and tranquillity can be found in a beautiful garden, and as a lace-maker and keen gardener, I have sought to combine both passions in this work. My lace design was mainly inspired by foliage, flowers and vines in my own garden, as well as ideas derived from studying old lace and soft furnishings. The stitch technique used to create the fabric is basic buttonhole stitch and many of its variations.



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T8 SUSAN VENESS - SENSATIONAL

When I considered this challenge, I considered lots of words that expressed my response. Not being able to decide upon one, I chose to express as many as I could as wordles. The main stitch is cross stitch which I have embellished with French knots and backstitch.