

Unique Stitching Mixed Media or Art Quilt Collage Challenge

The Theme: My Place

What is involved?

The challenge is to create an original mixed media or art quilt collage. Any techniques and materials can be used, but there are a couple of rules:

- The piece must be made of more than one layer. If a quilt, it must dominantly consist of a minimum of three distinct layers bound together. These layers do not need to conform with tradition quilt layers if your design calls for something else. The layers must be securely bound and the quilting visible. If it is not a quilt, it must be sufficiently robust to maintain its form whilst hanging and must be able to be hung without pin damage. The layers may be adhered to wood, canvas, heavy card or other similarly firm base.
- The theme must be conformed with but can be loosely interpreted by you.
- You should include an artists' statement of no more than half an A4 typed page explaining your interpretation of the theme.
- You must register so I have a rough idea of numbers interested in participating.
- Your finished piece must be no more than 12 inches square and no less than 10 inches square. It may be rectangular measuring between 10 inches wide/long and 12 inches wide/long. It may be landscape or portrait in orientation.
- It must be able to be hung with pins without sustaining damage. A fabric hanging pocket or tabs may be attached to the back. These should not be visible once hung.
- A label with your name and email address should also be attached on the lower back of the art quilt.
- Each person may enter as many pieces as they like however a maximum of two collages will be considered for the travelling exhibition.

What is the cost?

There is no cost to enter.

If selected for the travelling exhibition you will be asked to post the collage to me in Canberra. Packaging must be sufficient to protect the piece. You will also be asked to provide a pre paid self addressed post pack which is adequate for return postage of your collage. If the piece requires special packaging, this should be considered at the time of entry. Special arrangements remain your responsibility.

How to enter

1. Download an enrolment form. Send the completed enrolment form to Unique Stitching at PO Box 387 Jamison ACT 2614 or by email to cecile@uniquestitching.com.au by no later than Friday 23 December 2011.
2. Upload an image of your completed collage/s to the Unique Stitching Facebook page by no later than Friday 24th February 2012. Email or post your Registration Part B to Unique Stitching by the same day. You may be required to email further images to assist in selecting winners.
3. Some or all of the collages may be selected to be part of the travelling exhibition. If selected, your collage must be received by Unique Stitching, at the above postal address, by no later than 16th March 2012.

Categories

There are three categories:

- Professional
- Beginner
- General.

Professional includes anyone who earns income from their art/quilting/mixed media in any form or someone who has one first prize in any category of a relevant show or competition. (You know who you are!)

Beginner includes anyone who has been working with their chosen media and techniques for less than twelve months.

General includes all who are neither beginners nor professionals.

If you are in any doubt as to your category, please email me to discuss.

Anyone from any category can win the major prize.

Prizes

There will be three prizes per category (nine in total)

In each category:

- First Prize will be goods to the value of \$50.00
- Second Prize will be goods to the value of \$30.00
- Third Prize will be goods to the value of \$20.00.

In addition to this, all entries will be considered for the major prize of the 'AQC Experience' or goods to the value of \$800.00.

Only Australian and New Zealand residents will be eligible for the AQC Experience prize. International entrants or Australian or New Zealand entrants that can not attend AQC in April 2012 will be eligible for the \$800 goods.

All dollar values are in Australian dollars.

What is the AQC Experience?

Well this is an amazing prize.

The winner will be flown to Melbourne from the nearest State or Territory Capital city or major city in the case of NZ. They will get two nights accommodation in Melbourne and the opportunity to attend the 2012 Australasian Quilt Convention on Friday 13th and Saturday 14th April 2012. They will receive an entry ticket and tickets to the Friday evening lecture and the Saturday night gala dinner where they will have dinner with Lesley Riley and Cecile Whatman (amongst others - still being finalised).

Time available at AQC on Friday will be dictated by flights. Ground transport will be provided in Melbourne.

Lesley Riley is an international artist, author, teacher, speaker, magazine editor and all round lovely lady. She is teaching at AQC and will be the guest speaker at the Friday Evening Lecture. Lesley's participation at AQC in 2012 is sponsored by Cecile Whatman.

Cecile Whatman is a designer, teacher and author. She is the principle behind Unique Stitching, a retail supplier of an enormous range of materials for mixed media, art quilting and more.

Who can participate?

Anyone! Invite your friends or groups to enter.