

Title: Quest for Fire

- * DESIGNED, EMBROIDERED, AND QUILTED BY: Caryl Bryer Fallert
- * DATE: 1994
- * SIZE: 30" wide X 26" high
- * COLORS: Orange, black and rainbow hues
- * MATERIALS: Cotton and nylon fabric, cotton & polyester thread, wool batting
- * TECHNIQUES: Hand dyed, hand painted, machine appliqued, embroidered & quilted
- * IDENTIFYING MARKS: Signature & label
- * OWNER: Mary Miller, Mound City MO



Design Concept & Process:

This is the first in a series of small embroidered quilts in which a female figure, cut from hand painted fabric is used as part of a dreamlike landscape. These pieces are part of a larger series of small works in which my process is very much like doodling with fabric, i.e. the design was developed spontaneously, working directly on a dye painted background with bits of fabric and thread. Each part of the design grew out of the last, just as a doodle grows to fill a page, when the mind is engaged elsewhere. In this composition, fire represents passion and creative energy. The forest represents the unconscious, where I look for inspiration.

The background fabric was hand painted with fiber reactive dye. Small scraps of hand dyed fabric left over from other projects were laid on the background and then stitched with various colors of thread. The figure and trees were appliquéd on top in layers, and the remainder of the design was developed by “drawing” freehand with my sewing machine and various colors of thread to create an organic composition this is more a landscape of the imagination than a real forest scene. My uncharacteristic use of metallic thread was inspired by an ice storm that coincided with the creation of this piece.

Exhibitions:

- * Old Forge Arts Center, 1994, Old Forge, NY (HonorableMention)
- * 22nd Anniversary National, Juried Exhibit – Wisconsin Women in the Arts, 1995 Anderson Arts Center, Kenosha, WI

Publications:

- * Illinois Agri-News, Friday, June 16, 1995, B-1,2 Feature article.



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