



Irish Patchwork Society  
Cumann Píosála na hÉireann

## Eastern Branch Exhibition

# Shades of Summer

2<sup>nd</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Phoenix Park Visitor Centre



OPW

## Message from the Chair

Our committee started to plan for this Exhibition in September 2022. Our main focus in the beginning was to choose a theme broad enough to appeal to our well-established quilters/artists while at the same time giving our new beginners an opportunity to be involved, too. After lots of suggestions and discussions *Shades of Summer* became our theme.

We achieved what we set out to do. Among the beautiful range of quilts on display are quilts from our new beginners, one quilt is a very first quilt made, hanging alongside the amazing art quilts made by our more experienced quilters.

Behind each quilt is a story, which can be read in the lovely artist statements by each quilter detailing their thoughts, inspiration, process and completion of their quilt. We would like to thank all participants for sharing their story, their hard work and their quilt with us.

A big thank you also to our committee who put in many hours of work to source a venue, keep our quilters on track and informed, collect, catalogue and hang the quilts. A special thank you to Mary Hunter for her advice and support and Lena Pugachova for the stunning photographs, the promotional material and this catalogue.

Finally, a sincere thank you to the Office of Public Works for the truly lovely venue in the Phoenix Park Visitor Centre and all their help with our Exhibition.

We hope you enjoy these beautiful artistic creations.

**Mareeda Tracey**

Chair IPS Eastern Branch

**July 2023**



## Summer at Sea

Jo Banks

This quilt is inspired by memories of dunes, sand and sea, and colours associated with same.

I used cotton fabrics, curved piecing, free-motion quilting and machine appliqué.



## Farmer's Delight

Sandra Breheny

This is hand-dyed fabric embellished with handmade silk and organza flowers, machine pieced and machine quilted. The colours resemble the earth and its changing stages of growth.



## Sunflower Stars

Ciara Brennan

Based on the pattern *Simple Solstice* by Robin Pickens using her charm pack *Solana*. This reminds me of the fields of sunflowers on Summer holidays in France. Stitched and quilted with techniques learned at the recent *Back to Basics* classes.



## West Cork, Summer 2018

Catherine Britton

I retired in the Summer of 2018 and was spending some time with my mother in West Cork when she suggested that now was the time to take up some new hobbies! She was a gifted patchwork and textile artist and encouraged me to have a go, giving me a large bag of scraps and “orphan blocks” to start me off. It was a wonderful gift. Since then, patchwork and quilting have marked big birthdays, Christmas and new babies, and provided solace and comfort during hard times.

This quilt is a reworking of some of these “orphan blocks”, mainly log cabin pieces, along with other fabric from my mother’s stash to reflect the colours and atmosphere of beautiful West Cork Summer days spent with her.

Thank you, Mum. Catherine Duggan (1938 – 2023)



## Connemara Sunset

Sandra Butler

A reminder of the wonderful sunsets in Connemara. I used mainly batik fabrics and a strip-piecing method for my seascape piece.



## Summer Flops

Sheryl Cullen

When Summer arrives, my whole wardrobe changes – all the way down to my shoes. Flip-flops see me through the Summer. Hence, this quilt is about which flip-flops do I wear today?!

It is machine-stitched with appliqué, various braids and buttons.





## Philomena's Garden

Janet Egan

When I saw the fabric (Abby's Rose by Moda), I fell in love with it. I was reminded of my mother's garden full of flowers.

This is my first project and has lots of mistakes, but it reflects the beginning of my quilting.



## Blooming Flowers

Tish Enright

Inspired by the wild flower planting in the green area where I live. I used a variety of cotton fabrics, cut into 2 1/2" squares and then sewn onto 1" paper hexagons. This technique is called English Paper Piecing (EPP). There are 263 hexagons sewn into flower shapes and rows. I embroidered the centre of each flower using simple stitches.



## Summer Postcards from Ireland

Miriam Gogarty

I make and swap fabric postcards with friends around the world. These postcards represent Ireland in Summer. I used appliqué, machine embroidery and fabric layering.



## Blooms

Miriam Hennigan

There is nothing like Summer blooms.

Hand-dyed fabric and batiks are used in this quilt. Raw-edge appliqué is used on the blooms.

I love flowers and the colours of all the varieties. That is why I chose to do a vase full of colourful blooms, reminding me of Summer in all its glory.



## Mother Nature's Palette

Sharon Hughes

In Summer, the sunlight can be harsh and intense. To balance this, Mother Nature dresses her flora and fauna in rich, vibrant colours. To show them off at her best, she uses two of her favourite neutrals – blue (the sky) and green (the land).

Palette colours: hand appliquéd circles using Kaffe Fassett and Tula Pink fabrics.

Sky/land background: ombré technique hand-dyed cotton.



## Long Bright Colourful Days

Mary Hunter

Inspired by the long, bright, colourful days of Summer on our island. The colours used in this piece bring up lots of memories of childhood Summers by the sea when in “never rained”!

Techniques: machine curved piecing and appliqué using cotton fabric. Machine quilted and embellished using cotton wadding and threads.



## In the Bee-Loud Glade

Siobhán Kirwan Keane

Our family keeps bees. Summer is the busiest time of the year for the beekeeper. The quilt background, from sky to ground, represents the wildflower meadows beloved of bees. For this I used 5" pre-cuts. The beehive in the foreground is busy with bees, all female and all working hard, providing for every bee in the hive. The appliqué flowers are recycled from a duvet cover and the bees are cut from a fabric scrap. The title of the quilt is inspired by the WB Yeats poem "The Lake Isle of Innisfree".



## Tiptoe Through the Tulips

Eilish Masterson

This quilt is foundation-pieced using batik fabrics and free-motion quilted. I love the Summer flowers and tulips are a favourite.

Template @teresadownunder.







## My Side of the Fence

Valerie Monaghan

This design by Karen Yaffe brought colourful gardens in Summer to mind. I'm looking forward to spending more time in my garden this Summer. The technique is wool appliqué on a cotton background with added embroidery.



## Summer Loving

Karen Monahan

This quilt is inspired by Heidi Parkes. It is a picture of a Summer's day using embroidery, English paper piecing, appliqué, needle-turn appliqué and couching.

It is hand-sewn and hand-quilted. Fabrics include a repurposed and eco-dyed fabric juxtaposed with fabrics from Ruby Star Society and Kona Solids.



## Make Sure You Get My Good Side

Sue Mulvihill

This quilt is inspired by the happy memories we have of our first visit to Rio de Janeiro in Summer 2018. In a bird sanctuary we encountered a toucan, so beautiful and so used to cameras and selfies that he seemed to be saying, “make sure you get my good side!”



## Summer Memories

Niamh Murphy

The first thing that comes to mind when thinking of Summer is the 99. It brings back wonderful memories of having them as a child... a real treat. I still love them.

I used scraps of fabric and curved pieced them together.



## Rainbow Summer

Phyllis Murphy

The Summer season is so full of colour, so I used all the colours of the rainbow in this quilt. The blocks are crazy-patch, which are pieced together. I then appliquéd some flowers on. The quilt has two layers as the crazy-patch blocks have a foundation.



## Dresden Flowers

Katharine Murray

I love Dresden plate blocks and wanted to use them for my flowers depicting shades of Summer. The background is from Karen Nyberg's collection – the first person to quilt in space – and is from her Earth Views line.

I machine pieced and quilted the wallhanging, giving the piece a semi-3D effect.



## Summer Garden

Caitríona Ní Laoithe

The inspiration for my quilt comes from the enjoyment I get from connecting with nature. My fingers are not very green, but I love pottering and spending time in my garden, especially in Summer.

I machine-quilted the background. The flowers, butterflies, wheelbarrow, wellingtons, etc. were appliquéd and then hand-stitched with DMC embroidery threads. The quilt was machine quilted.





**Lakeside**  
Sarah Nix

This quilt is inspired by a technique in “Happy Villages” by Karen Eckheimer.

I used raw-edge appliqué, with the top portion covered by tulle. It is machine quilted and hand and machine embroidered.



## Sunny Days

Dearbhla O'Reilly

This quilt is inspired by the many shades of sunny Summer days and roses. It is made of cotton fabrics and quilted using metallic and embroidery threads.



## Generosity

Michelle Parker

My neighbour has a beautiful garden that puts my “wild garden” in the shade. This piece is inspired by Deirdre’s roses that she generously shares.

Equally, my sew club “The Just 22s” were generous enough to share their green scraps and their advice to help me complete my piece.

My improv roses were made completely from scraps and stash, which should make my little bee happy. All the piecing is improv and the free-motion quilting depicts leaves. All completed on my little sewing machine.



## In the Shade

Lena Pugachova

I love the bright Summer flowers in the bright Summer sun, but it's also worthwhile to take a moment to see what is going on in the shade. The shade is full of life too, and the fern rules there.

This is my take on the exquisite shapes and shades of ferns, made with cotton batik fabrics using machine piecing and free-motion quilting.



## Trellis

Sandra Reynolds

My improv quilt is based on Summer colours from my garden. I appliquéd a climbing stem onto the background and hand-stitched to resemble a trellis.



## Going Round in Circles

Ina Stephens

For “Shades of Summer” I thought lots of colour, so circles of multiple colours came to mind.

I used all cotton fabrics and hand-appliqued circles. I saw a quilt in Jean Wells’s blog, “Stitchin’ Post”, which inspired the quilting. The quilt is machine and hand quilted.



## Contrast – Irish and Western Australian Fields

Mareeda Tracey

Visiting Perth, Western Australia, I have been very conscious of the contrast between the rich green fields of Ireland and the more muted and burnt landscape of Western Australia. Here in Ireland, I see the beautiful, lush fields with purple heather in Wicklow, while WA fields are generally a less vibrant green with burnt grass and hints of red from the soil. I have also noted the contrast between the magnificent white swans in Ireland and the equally magnificent black swans in WA.

Quilt made with basic patchwork blocks and appliquéd swans.

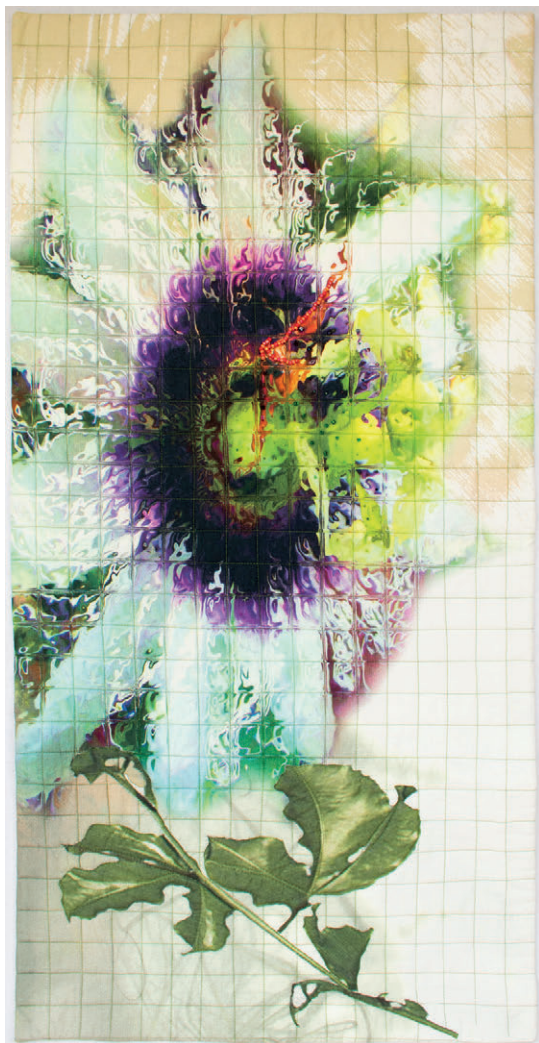


## Butterflies and Bees

Treasa Walsh

My inspiration was sustainability of the planet and our ecosystem. I used a mix of beautiful floral fabrics, some machine embroidery and sashiko and one hand-made sunflower.





## Floral Explosion

Josephine Whitmore

I bought this fabric at a textile swap a few years ago. I like the translucent effect, suggesting the flower is behind glass cubes. I kept this project simple, grid-quilting over where some lines were already printed on the fabric. I continued the grid quilting throughout the piece. The stem was repositioned to meet the size brief. I chose to leave this area without grid quilting. I thought a facing allowed the viewer to imagine the flower extending further into space.

The backing is pieced but not matched, from the original fabric sample. I used Thermolam batting. Beads are hand-stitched on to imply an explosion of pollen from the flower's centre.