

Postcard Challenge Inspirations!

by Cindy Scraba

I'm so excited to invite you to participate in this very special *Quilted Postcard Challenge*! *Inspired by Nature* is the theme issued by CQA/ACC to quilters and fibre friends from coast to coast. Entries will be displayed during *Quilt Canada 2018* (May 31 to June 2, 2018) at the Vancouver Convention Centre, Vancouver, BC.

The creative doorway is wide open with an emphasis on originality. Feel free to incorporate your favourite methods and signature style. Any quilting and surface design techniques are welcome: pieced, appliquéd, modern, abstract, fibre art, collage, fusion, thread play, thread sketching, embroidery (by hand or machine), beading, needlework, etc. Quilt it, edge it and embellish your 6" x 4" postcard(s) as you desire!

As a proud sponsor for the *Quilted Postcard Challenge*, Cindy's Threadworks is pleased to have BC Children's Hospital Foundation® benefit from the proceeds derived from the art sale taking place at *Quilt Canada* starting Thursday, May 31. Postcards will be sold by donation (minimum \$5.00) plus a silent auction for designated entries.

Inspiration and Incentives

Early bird entries received by February 1, 2018, will be entered to win gift certificates. In addition, first, second and third cash prizes with *Excellence in Thread Use by Machine* and *Excellence in Thread Use by Hand* will be awarded.

Let's get started by browsing these inspirational postcards shared by various guest artists—some you will recognize!



Paige Islet by Carol Seeley ABOVE

"An island with an interesting looking tree in Desolation Sound, a popular boating destination on the West Coast. Techniques: photo imagery, enhanced with coloured pencils and thread embellishment, then machine quilted." Carol is an award-winning CQA/ACC member, quilter and fibre artist.

Island Glimpse by Coreen Zerr AT RIGHT

Wind-swept, coastal landscape, was machine appliquéd with free-motion quilting. Anyone who has taken her classes will recognize Coreen's award-winning signature style. She's been a popular thread-play teacher at previous *Quilt Canada* conferences and guilds across Canada.



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Underwater Hideaway

by Judith Baker Montano NEAR RIGHT

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At first glance, Judith's art pieces appear to be elegant paintings. She enables thread to create dimensional effects in textured layers. This harmony of embroidery techniques and stitches defines Judith's signature style. One of her many published books, *Essential Stitch Guide*, happens to be a full-colour resource of inspiration and is available on my website if anyone is interested.

Blue Bird by Judy Leslie FAR RIGHT

The "bird motif was machine appliquéd onto a piece of hand-dyed cotton sateen. To add more surface interest, the bird was made from lovely bits of silk leftover from other projects." Judy won multiple awards for her realistic, large-scale landscape quilts.



Underwater Hideaway



Blue Bird

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Silk Fusion Arbutus

by Janet Finch NEAR RIGHT

"I've always loved the arbutus trees which are always twisting and displaying the colourful bark. Silk fusion is a felt made from fine silk fibres...you often twist the fibres to create colour blends or manipulate it to look like the flowing landscape."

Quilter Girl by Jackie White FAR RIGHT

Appliqué and thread sketching is a popular free-spirited style and so is Missy, who has been spotted shopping uptown, quilting in her studio and has a Midas touch! What's next on her agenda? Jackie White is known for her whimsical style of projects—stay tuned.



Silk Fusion Arbutus



Quilter Girl

Please note: photo examples on these pages are not entries for this challenge and will not be for sale.



Departure Bay Nanaimo by Marg Bradley ABOVE LEFT

A stunning sunrise captured in a photo, printed to fabric and detailed with free-motion quilting. "The peacefulness is a good start to any day." A quilted card is a great way to preserve the memory.

Kanaka Creek Fraser Valley by Vivian Kapusta ABOVE RIGHT

A photo printed on cotton and machine stitched. Vivian's photography often inspires her fibre art and award-winning quilts.

Sail Away by Karen Killins-Robinson AT LEFT

Her clever and effective use of fabrics help to create this unique postcard—well executed with finishing threads and quilting. Check out classes offered by Karen at www.kaleidoscopequiltingcompany.com.



Suggestions for Mailing

Deadline: May 1, 2018

- 1** Protect your postcard art in a sealed envelope before posting.
- 2** Send entries to CQA/ACC BC Coastal Rep, Karen-Killins Robinson: 1423 Haida Road, Duncan, BC V9L 5P4.
- 3** Canada Post has letter-rate mail for one or two stamps depending on weight.
- 4** If you require tracking ability, process as parcel rate at your postal outlet.
- 5** International locations should check their local rates and options.
- 6** If you belong to a quilt guild or quilt group, consider collecting cards to mail altogether and consolidate postal fees.
- 7** Attach contact info to each postcard: name, email, address, phone and quilt name.
- 8** To be eligible for judging and prizes, entries must be postmarked by May 1, 2018.

Share the Postcard Challenge

Why not organize a postcard class in your community, quilt guild, sew days, satellite groups, retreats, etc., to encourage participation, to share ideas, skills and works-in-progress? If you're a teacher, why not introduce a new project idea. Quilt shops—consider scheduling a new class for customers and include pre-cut pieces of suitable stabilizer.

Share a *Quilted Postcard Challenge* poster in newsletters, post it on Facebook pages and share in other social media. The poster link is located on the CQA/ACC website: www.canadianquilter.com.

If you need a few more tips and ideas review the *Make a Postcard!* article link on my website www.cindysthreadworks.com/blog. For customer convenience, I offer pre-cut 6" x 4" postcard-sized stabilizer to include with online thread orders if requested.



I encourage everyone to exercise your creativity to extreme levels. It will be exciting to experience the visual diversity displayed in the *Quilted Postcard Challenge* gallery at *Quilt Canada 2018*. I'll be busy serving other customers at Cindy's Threadworks booths in the Merchant Mall. Please drop-in to say, "Hi," and mention you participated in this special challenge! ♦

Education & Inspiration
are the focus of my column,
thread talks and workshops.



Cindy Scraba www.CindysThreadworks.com