

# Celebrating Exotic Emerald 2013 Colour of the Year

Celebrate!

by Catherine Henderson

**V**ERNON SILVER STAR QUILTERS, the largest guild in British Columbia's Interior Region, boasts over 150 members and a small but enthusiastic art group co-led through its paces by quilters Sandie Guenette, a specialist in early childhood education and Christine Trory, an organizer of adult training programs. Last year they studied colour and all its classic combinations and topped it off with a special colour challenge for the guild's tri-annual *Legacy of Quilts Show* in September.

The task was to celebrate "emerald," Pantone's 2013 colour of the year, use a provided fabric swatch and explore the theme "exotic". No larger than 20 x 13 inches, all pieces were original designs, and made entirely by the individual artists. "Exotic" is used to describe "a thing of beauty that is rarely seen" and indeed, the results were stunning! Each quilt was accompanied by an artist's statement and the variety of interpretations was awesome.

At a kick off workshop for the 2013/14 season Dr. Sharon McCoubrey, University of British Columbia professor, community art leader and art education specialist, addressed the group on the elements and principles of design and commended them on their pursuits. One has to wonder what the VSSQ Art Group will celebrate next!



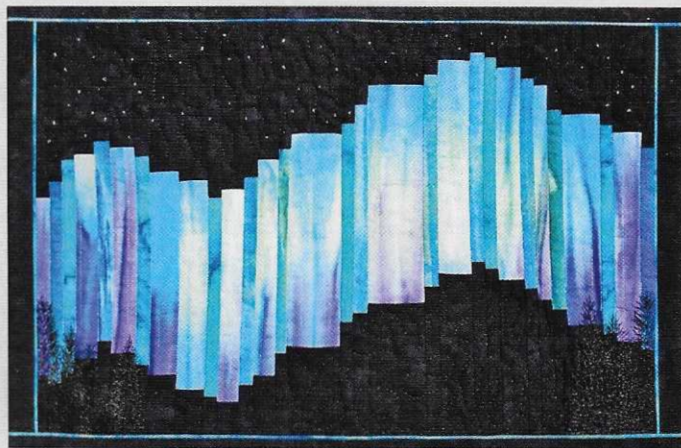
**Moroccan Midnight** by Cathy Gaetz-Brothen

Reflecting on a trip taken to Africa when I was 23, conjured memories of spices, textiles, hand-tooled metals, hearing the punji of a snake charmer and experiencing a meal of camel meat. The mosques were the most notable, as many prohibited women from entering until they were 80 years of age. Not sure if this was the same rule for cats. This work incorporates the textural and multi-sensory facets of Morocco in the midnight skyline. Materials and methods: satin, lace, burlap, netting, fleece, flannel, silk and glass beads, crazy and strip quilted with reverse appliqué.



**'E' Is For**  
by Susan Dawson

I was inspired by the 'e' words and wanted to see if I could design something normally seen in emerald. I liked the idea of doing a whole cloth colour quilt. I also liked the idea of using a different shape than a rectangle. Thus 'E' is For was born. Materials and methods: commercial fabric, free-form shaping, free-motion stitching.



**Emerald Lights** by Lorraine Johnson-Brotsky

Aurora Borealis... an exotic name for an exotic colour phenomenon of the night sky. Materials and methods: pieced strips of cotton batiks, decorative metallic thread, machine thread play, beads, polyester batting, and machine quilted.



**Autumn Colors with Seagreen** by Tonny Penny

Playing with fabric with varied green colours was a lot of fun. Seagreen, malachite, turquoise, dark lemon green and light lemon green, blue and yellow. Small pieces of cotton combined in a form I liked, layered with hand-dyed gauze and machine topstitched. The border is given a hand-stitched accent. Rustic autumn colours on top of all those cool green ones gives it a warm feeling.

**Mysteries of the Mask** by Mary Matus AT RIGHT

Digitized and embroidered using a contour fill with triple stitch for masks and turtle, beads accent mask's eyes. Echo quilting around masks, free-motion quilting surrounds the ink-coloured turtle. Vanishing points lined together with free-motion circles.



**Beauty Within**

by Naomi Pearson

Often in what we do not understand,  
we choose to not see  
the soaring inner beauty that is hidden  
within the outer garment.  
Look into my eyes.

Materials and methods: abstract fibre art, cotton, Tyvek®, Angelina® fibre, heat-altered chiffon, organza, thread lace, wire, couched yarn, embroidery cotton, thread-painting, bead embellishment, appliqué.



**Exotic Maui in January**  
by Val Tucker

My first impressions of Maui in January were of sun, green and flowers. Then I was awed with the sunsets and the daily ceremony of taking time to stop everything and gaze at the sunset hoping for the perfect conditions to witness a "greenflash" sunset. Whale watching started at sunrise and ended at sunset! Materials and methods:

Japanese puzzle technique for the background, fusible appliqué and Angelina® fibre, Texture Magic® for ocean.

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**Magpie** by Catherine Henderson

A magpie's iridescent feathers are rarely seen other than in split second photography. These birds are well known for their attraction to objects that are shiny or different from their surroundings. Of all the exotica available, this magpie stole the one item that is of a complimentary colour to emerald. Materials and methods: commercial cotton, tulle, vintage silk, paper-pieced, machine-quilted, Wonderfil® rayon threads, Angelina® fibre, vintage and contemporary buttons, beads and jewels.

**Underwater World**  
by Linda Kuraoka

My first snorkeling adventure in warm sea water was my inspiration to explore the exotic sea creature—the seahorse. It lives in the colourful, active underwater world of coral reefs. Due to their timid behavior, seahorse sightings are very rare. Some species are on the endangered/vulnerable list. Surprisingly the male gives birth. Materials and methods: cotton, satin, silk, voile, yarn, beads, buttons, layering, free-motion quilting, texture magic, appliqué and hand stitching.



**Kanasawa Castle, Japan** by Christine Troy

On a visit to Japan I was drawn to all the exotic designs that assailed me and took lots of photos. One of these many photos is the inspiration for this design. Materials and methods: Hand-dyed and commercial fabrics, silk and velvet, machine-pieced and quilted, hand and fused appliqué, hand embroidery and beading.



**Palm Trees** by Caroline Lamb

When I close my eyes to visualize "exotic" the scene that comes to mind is lying on the beach looking at the sky through the fronds of palm trees. That scene, combined with sky line and listening to the waves, is tranquility for me. Materials and methods: cotton, yarn, machine-quilting, fusing, couching.

**Gypsy Soul**  
by Sandie Guenette

Exotic is the haunting strains of gypsy music. It brings the gypsy soul to life. Materials and methods: cotton, beads, yarn, raw silk, charms, fused, beaded, machine-quilted, and hand-stitched.



**Peaceful Afternoon**  
by Joyce Evanishen

My inspiration for this piece was the memories of many quiet afternoons spent by my backyard pond. Relaxing, I listen to water flow over the rocks in the manmade stream on its way back to the pond filled with gorgeous water lilies and koi. That's a *Peaceful Afternoon!*

Method: background is the tiled technique featured in *Radiant Land-scapes* by Gloria Loughman.

