

## P1 ESME SMITH - MEMORIES ARE MORE PRECIOUS THAN DIAMONDS



After weeks of consideration about technique and design I was excited to find that two of my interests could be married together to form this piece. For years I have researched family history, gathering together information and photographs. These I used to form the basis of this album. I scanned photographs onto fabric, added these as pages of my album and with different embroidery and embellishing techniques transform the pages into a scrapbook representative of albums my grandmother made. I have used different mediums to those which she used but the outcome is similar – precious memories worth more than diamonds.

## P2 MARGARET GOLLAN - WORLD OF TREASURE



This design was inspired by a tiled wall at a pagoda on Mandalay Hill in Myanmar. Glass tiles in the shape of diamonds were featured. The central diamond is surrounded by designs common throughout Central Asia. Travelling is my treasure. 'World of Treasure' celebrates places I've been. The fabric was hand woven in a small village in Turkey. Threads include some that I have collected from countries such as France, China and India.

## P3 JENNY O'SULLIVAN - MASTERPIECE FOR MELANIE



Our younger daughter, Melanie, asked me to work a special piece of embroidery, just for her, and "Masterpiece for Melanie" is the result. Her interests are horses and all things Celtic while her favourite colour is blue so I incorporated these in the design. The piece is worked mainly in silk threads on a Dupion silk and handmade silk paper background, using stem, back, interlaced, chain and Palestrina knot stitches, highlighted with gold pearl purl metallic thread. This is my TREASURE, made with love, especially for her.

#### **P4 NANCYE DONALDSON - LIZARDS ON THE PAVEMENT**

Inspired by Gloria Loughman's diamond background and the colours of a sunset. I painted some fabrics and used Vliesofix to bond the diamond shapes onto a background of gold satin. I then added some wool for the branch of a tree and gathered all my little treasures I have had tucked away in a treasure chest. Each one is very precious to me, and now they are behind glass and I am able to view them in my workroom on the wall above my sewing machine. I named it Lizards on the Pavement after viewing it from a distance and my diamond background morphed into a pavement and my lizards are the "Icing on the Cake".

#### **P5 ELAINE DWYER - TREASURED**



My treasures are natural fibres that we use in our embroidery, silk from the silkworm, cotton from our fields, pearls from the oyster shell and wool from the sheep's back, others are inspirational people whom I've acknowledged then treasured items from childhood made from skills I have learnt + knitting and crochet. I have beaded the initials of Margaret Oppen, the beads the colour of sapphires, I have used one "diamond". I have used mainly gloriana silk thread D.M.C cotton, the stitches are simple, stem, chain and palestinian. Photos of the construction of my main piece will be sent with my entry.

#### **P6 JAN PILGRIM - CHILDHOOD TREASURES**



As an artist, I work hard trying to convey my love of the stitch and nature to all of my peers and the public. Influences are first and foremost, everything I see and experience is what I feel will make an interesting embroidery. My love of nature has made a big impression on me since my childhood days of living near the Kuring-Gai National Park. My process is to go through my photos and experiences that have been part of my life and pick something I'm feeling from these inspirations and experiences, then set about to create it. I always like to have different styles of embroidery in my projects. This creates so much interest and the textures that I use make it a fun thing to work on. By using different textiles and threads I can create the texture I'm wanting to achieve.

#### **P7 DIANNE MAGRO - TREASURE**



My concept is Diamonds and other Treasures. What an appropriate theme for this Year's Margaret Oppen Competition with The Guild celebrating its 60th Anniversary which is represented by Diamonds. I decided to work a contemporary piece showcasing my love of everything Silk. I ask you to visualize unrolling a Treasure Map from an old wooden scroll. The Treasure is my stitching which encompasses fine silk threads and old silk ribbons, rich vibrant colours, lustre, sheen and touches of gold, harmony and balance. I have incorporated 60 Diamond shapes into my design using many different embroidery stitches.

#### **P8 HELEN PARSONS - THE GLENS, 2017**

Each stitch, the toil of Scottish Highlanders. Highland Clearances by hereditary aristocratic landowners, by force and burning of crofters' homes, and the potato famine in early and mid 1800s, dispossessed them of their land and living in the glens, their culture and Gaelic language. Evicted immigrant tenants grazed imported British sheep breeds and exported wool to the home country. Each fabric, the toil of weavers of Heather Mills, founded in 1892 in Selkirk in the Scottish Borders, a victim of the insolvency of the Border Weaving Company in 2008. "That's how it goes - we've been closing mills here for hundreds of years." I treasure my ancestral heritage: hardiness, tenacity and an adventurous spirit. Suiting samples Heather Mills, Selkirk, purchased in Australia, cotton perle and stranded thread, English wool thread.

#### **P9 HELEN PARSONS**

GLENCOE 1, 2017

As for P8

#### **P10 HELEN PARSONS**

GLENCOE II, 2017

As for P8

#### **P11 HELEN PARSONS**

THE HIGHLANDS I, 2017

As for P8

#### **P12 HELEN PARSONS**

THE HIGHLANDS II, 2017

As for P8

P13 HELEN PARSONS

NATURE'S TREASURE I: THE LOGARITHMIC SPIRAL, 2017

*Spira mirabilis*, "the marvelous spiral", named by Jacob Bernoulli, but first described by René Descartes in 1638. The spiral arms of the Milky Way, the bands of tropical cyclones, the flight of the hawk and the insect, the nerves of the cornea, the shape of sea shells and plants. Its size increases but its shape is unaltered with each successive curve. Inspired by *Placenticeras meeki* fossil, Sid and Pearl Freeman Mineral Collection 2011, Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford, UK.

P14 HELEN PARSONS

NATURE'S TREASURE II: FOSSIL TRACES, 2017

Fossils: rare evolutionary traces of life across billions of years of geological time. Inspired by Fossil, Sid and Pearl Freeman Mineral Collection 2011, Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford, UK.

P15 HELEN PARSONS

NATURE'S TREASURE III: FOSSIL TRACES, 2017

Fossils: rare evolutionary traces of life across billions of years of geological time. Inspired by Fossil, Sid and Pearl Freeman Mineral Collection 2011, Pitt Rivers Museum, University of Oxford, UK.