



The Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc.

Margaret Oppen Competition 2019 – Artist Statements - Winners

Traditional

T4 HEATHER GRANT - SENSATIONS ON AN INDIAN JOURNEY (Winner)

During a recent journey through India many sensations were experienced. Everywhere one sights colourful clothes worn by the Indians. The noise of honking horns is deafening. Cooking smells (and petrol fumes) abound. Spicy food challenges one's taste. The texture in textiles, and the temple marble carvings were great to touch. I chose to embroider a Toran, to include items representing the sensations I experienced each day – using a variety of threads for texture. Open chain stitch is prevalent in their embroidery – as well as shisha mirrors. I tried to use the simple techniques we saw in my Toran.

T7 MARGARET ROOKLEDGE - A LACE GARDEN (Highly Commended)

For centuries lace has evoked a sense of beauty, wealth, purity, romance, grace and sensuality. A sense of peace and tranquillity can be found in a beautiful garden, and as a lace-maker and keen gardener, I have sought to combine both passions in this work. My lace design was mainly inspired by foliage, flowers and vines in my own garden, as well as ideas derived from studying old lace and soft furnishings. The stitch technique used to create the fabric is basic buttonhole stitch and many of its variations.

Contemporary

C10 LINDY SMITH - GARDEN 1 (Winner)

The title of my entry is *Garden 1*, which embodies my love of flowers and nature in general. The many corners of my garden, which change throughout the seasons, provide me with constant inspiration. I hope that my depiction of one such corner, evokes in the viewer the same or similar sensations to that which I experienced while making it.

C1 SUZANNE RUSSELL - SACRED EARTH (Highly Commended)

Inspiration for “Sacred Earth” came from a chance viewing of a series of drone photographs taken near Uluru. I was taken by the direct - overhead view that emphasised the flatness of the land contrasted with the colour and texture of the natural landscape plus recent invasion through tracks. These photos evoked the senses in many ways:

- the landscape that is uniquely Australian- feel the heat, taste the dust, smell the eucalypts, see the vastness
- the contrasting colours of the trees, flowers, salt pans and the ochre of our earth
- a sense of pride and belonging to this unique land
- an appreciation for our indigenous cultural and natural heritage

Our Sacred Earth – Sensational!

Tutors and Past Winners

P1 CATHY JACK COUPLAND - PURE PLEASURE

Colour is an experience of our sense of sight, and has the power to evoke emotions and feelings, boost confidence, give warning, aid healing, excite appetite, stimulate, relax or affect our mood and sense of well-being. Colour is often what is noticed first when looking at a work of art or fashion piece. It grabs attention which is why canny marketers use it to influence our purchasing. Agate, characterized by its grain lines and variety of colour is the inspiration for this design and is my representation of a joyous, riotous use of hue and value. Just for the pure pleasure.