

International Inspirations

Patricia Archibald

Moving On (2004)

Archibald made her first piece of patchwork at the age of 11 and was one of the first people to take the City and Guilds Patchwork course. She set up the first dedicated quilting store in Scotland and owned a business selling appliquéd children's clothes. Her work has been widely exhibited in the UK and US and won several awards.

Moving On is inspired by *Kicho* (几帳) - silk door hangings popular in Japan since the Heian period (790-1180). These were used to hide noble women from public view when they visited temples or shrines, or for extra privacy at home. The left-hand panel of the quilt represents the past, with difficult rocky terrain. The right represents the future, calm and still for now. The present is the opening in the curtain: a singular moment.



Sandra Meech

Faces North (2004)

Meech grew up in Ontario, Canada, a landscape that *Faces North* pays tribute to. The work is inspired by the textiles and sewing traditions of Inuit women living in Arctic Canada, showing modern woollen wall hangings made today alongside the traditional caribou skin preparation. The border squares represent the snow and arctic tundra in which they live. Meech often uses photography and sketches to develop her work, and this quilt combines transferred photographic images with iridescent paint.

Inuit textiles are traditionally characterised by tiny, precise stitches, necessary to make the caribou and seal-skin clothes and tents waterproof and durable. Decorative pieces pay tribute to Inuit *shamanism*, a belief system founded on the spiritual and physical relationships between hunter and prey.



Barbara Howell

Divichi (1993)

This piece was inspired by a horse trapping from the Caucasus dated around 1900, featuring machine-piecing, appliqué, embroidery, quilting and handmade tassels. The primary colours featured are widely used in the art of the Caucasus.

