

May 2018

Block of the

Month

inspired by the exhibit

Personal Horizons by

Regina V. Benson

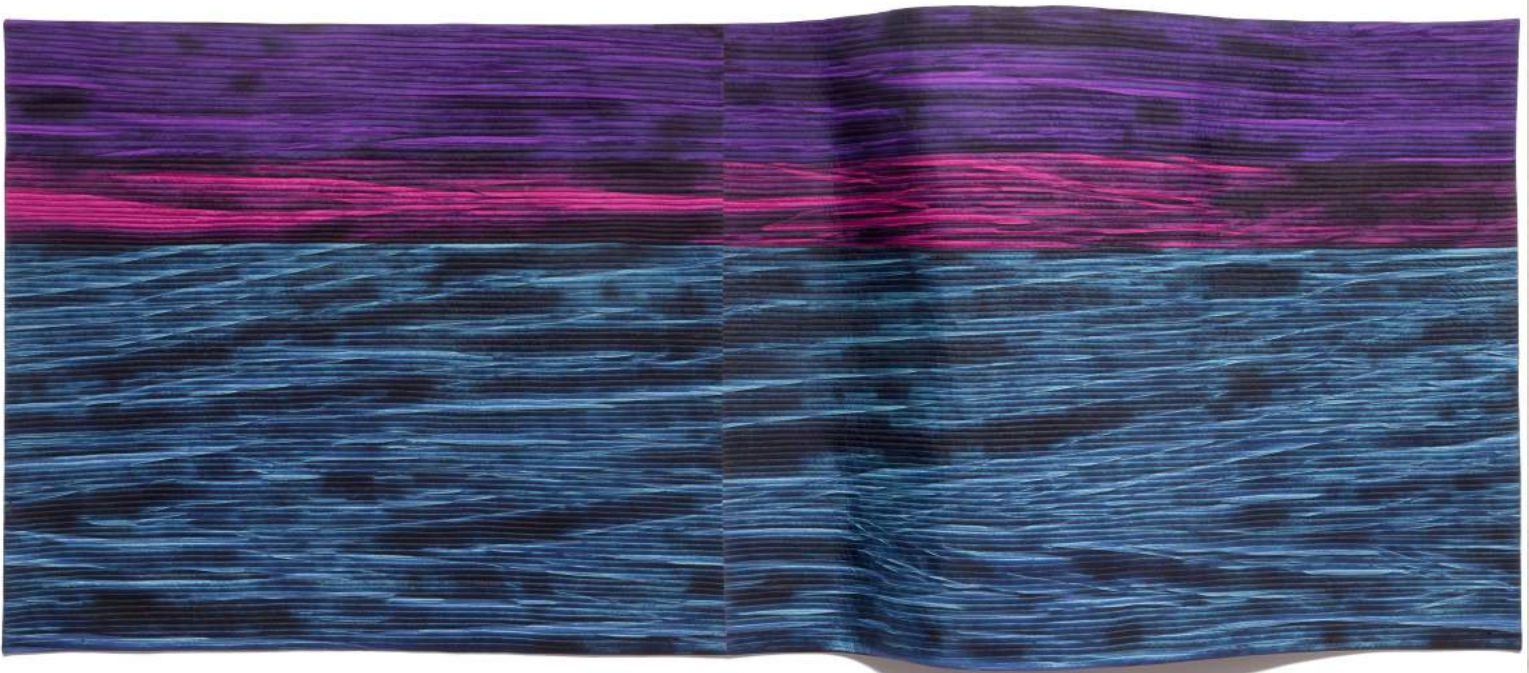


"For 'Personal Horizons' I have drawn together dimensional art quilts that introduce the viewer to my signature surface design techniques and a variety of sculptural wall presentations chosen to dramatize the subjects.

My ultimate goal is to entice the viewer to actively share in the visual and conceptual space of my work. I have been exploring ways to harness the fluid nature of textiles to hand and stand freely in space and undulate against walls, while still retaining its tactile nature. In designing these fiber works, I relied on my inventory of drawing and painting skills, surface design techniques, and recently learned engineering and architectural principles. Among the surface techniques employed in this collection are snow discharge and dyeing, rusting, heat pressing and burning. Spanning several series of my works, I chose these pieces to illustrate the various aesthetic horizons I am still reaching for and the visual and inspirational horizons."

**- Regina V. Benson, on
Personal Horizons
Dimensional Art Quilts**





Eventide, Diptych



Terra Cones, Triptych



Baltic Seaside, Triptych



Drawing on Regina's work in surface design,

We are challenging participants to use their own surface design and dyeing techniques to create one of a kind fabrics for this block.

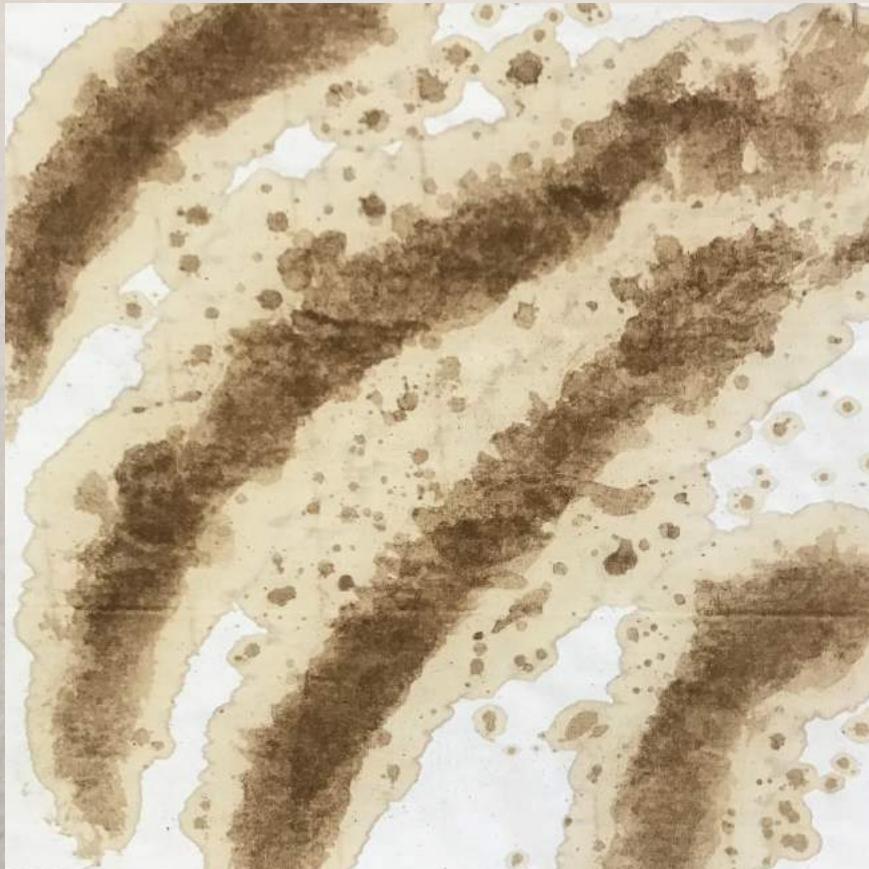
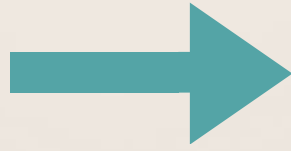
We used techniques such as tea dyeing, coffee dyeing, permanent marker surface design, ice dyeing and watercolor dyeing to create unique designs on our fabric.

Another pillar of Regina's work revolves around representing organic elements such as fire, earth, water, and sound. These elements are portrayed as organic motifs with curved edges, asymmetrical layering, and abstract composition.

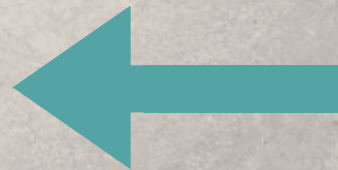
Combining these elements, we will be using our hand dyed fabric to do organic improv piecing. No two blocks will look the same, so don't be afraid to break the mold and make yours more or less scrappy!



Commercial fabrics dyed with permanent marker and rubbing alcohol



Unbleached muslin dyed with coffee grounds



Improv piecing, unlike many traditional quilting methods, really has no structure or rules. The direction of the fabric and width of the cuts is entirely up to you, the artist!

Below are a few examples of improv piecing, combined with the "quilt-as-you-go" method. These blocks were created in The National Quilt Museum's Junior Quilter's Club, providing a fun and free form activity for the participants! Once you have pieced enough fabric to expand your block to 10.5", square it off and snip away the excess threads!



For a WONDERFUL step by step tutorial for improv piecing, check out

**LovePatchworkandQuilting.com
(Complete link in original post!)**



Want to learn more about Regina V. Benson?

Visit ReginaBenson.com for information on her work, upcoming exhibitions, and her creative process!



The exhibit **Personal Horizons** by Regina V. Benson is on display at The National Quilt Museum through May 22.



Ablaze III



Want to get involved with The National Quilt Museum?

The National Quilt Museum serves the quilting community by bringing the work of today's quilters to new and expanding audiences worldwide.

On average, the museums in-facility and traveling exhibits are seen by over 120,000 people in more than 40 countries around the world annually. Through exhibitions, educational programs, and advocacy efforts, the museum ultimately works to introduce everyone to this extraordinary art form.



The National Quilt Museum supports the sustainability and growth of today's quilting community by bringing the work of today's quilters to new audiences worldwide. The museum is a 501c3 nonprofit organization primarily funded through the generosity of people and companies passionate about quilting.

Support

Become a Member

"Friends of the Museum" get special discounts and event invitations.

- QuiltMuseum.org/friend

Make a Donation

A tax-deductible donation of any size helps advance the art of quilting.

- QuiltMuseum.org/donate

Volunteer Program

Volunteer roles include interacting with visitors in the gallery, assisting with exhibit changes, and helping with class programs.

- QuiltMuseum.org/volunteer

Donate to the Auctions

Donate quilts or extra quilting materials for our fundraising auctions.

- QuiltMuseum.org/quilts-for-quilting

Planned Giving

Name The National Quilt Museum as a beneficiary in your will or estate planning.

- QuiltMuseum.org/giving

Spread the Word

Show others that you care about the future of quilting! Keep up with museum news and activities through our emails, www.QuiltMuseum.org, the museum app, Google Arts & Culture, and on social media:



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Download the museum app for Apple or Android.

Learn More at QuiltMuseum.org/GetInvolved