

Susan Strachan Johnson

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EDUCATION

BA (Hons) Philosophy and History of Art

City & Guilds of London, UK, Stitched Textiles Diploma in Embroidery & Design

AWARDS

- 2023: Emerald ARTYA award, Art Tour International Magazine, New York, for "Fear"
- 2012: Talent Next Door, Blue Ribbon, for Clear Waters
- 2008: Touched by Fire, Rebecca Burghardt Memorial Award (Best in Show) for Closer than She Appears)
- 2007: Grand National Quilt Show, Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Special Honorable Mention (Trompe l'Oeil work) for Shadow Fairy
- 2006: Insights 2006, Fibre Art Award for Forest of Ties
- 2004: Threadworks: The Garden Party, Best in Show for The First Garden Party
- 2002: Far From Home: A Soldier's Life at the Front 1914-1918 (World War I trench exhibit at the Wellington Country Museum & Archives: AWARD of Merit for Exhibition & Design, Ontario Museums Association (trench, murals and four mannequins)
- 2001: The Toy Show, Art-in-Guelph Gallery: the Wyndham Arts Award for The Paint by Number Gift Set (acrylic on canvas)
- 1999: The Last Picture Show, Art-in-Guelph Gallery: Honorable Mention for Enter the Dragon (watercolour collage)
- 1999: Here & Now, Georgetown: Merit Award for Back Yard Next Door #1(watercolour collage) 1998 Expressions '98, Guelph Creative Arts Association: Best in Show for On Their Own and People's Choice Award for Cottage Patio

SOLO SHOWS

- 2020: "Equimanimity", Wellington County Museum & Archives, July to November
- 2018: "Animus", The Gallerage, Everton, August
- 2013: "Affairs of the Heart" Greenwood Gallery, Guelph, January to March
- 2009-2011: a period of working on several major commissions
- 2008: "Parallax: Recent Works" Greenwood Gallery, Guelph
- 2003: Children's Chapel murals, altar frontal, St. David & St. Patrick' Church, Guelph
- 2003: The First Story Murals, (the Neutrals of Wellington County), WCMA Elora
- 2002: 'Far from Home: A Soldier's Life at the Front' (murals et al), WCMA, Elora
- 2002: The Pioneer Log Cabin murals (32' x 10'), WCMA Elora
- 2001: In Memoriam, faux stained glass mural, St. John's Church, Rockwood
- 2000: The Plowing Mural (20' x 7'), International Plowing Match, Elora
- 2000: 'Headspace in the Crimson Hat' (Toronto and Everton, Ontario)
- 1999: 'On a Light Fantastic Toe' (Guelph, Ontario)
- 1998: 'On a Crooked Path' (Guelph and Terra Cotta, Ontario)
- 1997: 'View from the 49th Sideroad' (Rockwood, Ontario)

TEACHING HISTORY

Music Inspired Needle Art, Guelph Embroiderers' Guild, Spring 2018

Music Inspired Quilt Art, Elora, April 2013.

Forest Floor, CGNA Kingston, October 2012, 2 days

Translucence in Fibre Art, 2-days FibreWorks Kingston, March 2011

Understanding Colour, Canadian Embroiderers' Guild, Guelph (CEGG), 6 mornings, Winter 2011 From

Salvage to Stitch, CEGG, 6 mornings, Fall 2010

Stitches of the Bayeux Tapestry, CEGG, 6 mornings, Winter 2010

Distress for Success, CEGG, 6 mornings Winter 2009

Trunk Show, Canadian Embroiderers' Guild London (CEGL), 1/2 day lecture, November 2009

Forest Floor, CEGL, October 2009, 2 1/2 days

Trunk Show, Royal City Quilters' Guild, My Stitching Journey, May 2009

Soft Rock, ONN, 1 hour demo, May 2009

Slide Show: The Fine Art of Recycling, Oakville Stitchery Guild, March 2009

CPR (Creative Problem-solving and Recycling), one week, Wellington County Museum & Archives, Summer 2008

Mixed Media Abstract Collages, Greenwood Quiltery, Guelph, April 2008

Mixed Media Landscapes, Greenwood Quiltery, March 2008

Soft Rock, one day, Joshua Creek Art Centre, Oakville Ont, March 2008

Fibre Cards, taught on an on-going basis at Play for a Day in my studio, as are many other techniques.

WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE

CPR (Cooperative Problem-Solving and Recycling: a creative group method for bringing unfinished art pieces back to life.)

Soft Rock (paper & fabric covered rock shapes, embroidered)

Mixed Media Landscapes (paper, paint and knitted threads)

Salvage to Stitch (use of recycled materials in embroidery)

Forest Floor (distressing and creating fabrics to simulate decaying organic matter)

Translucence in Fibre Art (layering and adding complexity with stripped paper, acrylic medium, paint, ink and stitch)

Layering on Stitched Surfaces with Paper, Ink and Paint

Music Inspired Design, in planning: development requested by Elora Festival for 2013

PUBLICATIONS

Grand Actions Registry: a Registry of Annual Accomplishments and Commitments, 2011 (and every year since 2000, as an active artist/environmentalist)

<http://www.grandriver.ca/GrandActionsRegistry/2011/4633.pdf>

Talent Next Door, Cambridge & Guelph Area, Craig Musselman (2012), ISBN 978-0987789525

Connecting Design to Stitch, Sandra Meech (2012), Batsford UK ISBN 978-1-84994-024-5

Rockwood: A Mosaic of Memories (2003), ISBN 0-9733911-0-3

Words & Wonders (2001), ISBN: 0-9682733-3-5

Wellington County History (1999), ISBN: 1186-6165

Eramosa Anthology (including Cover), 1996, ISBN: 0-9681055-0-5

MAJOR COMMISSIONS

2015-2016: Two life-size sculptures of Clydesdale horses for Wellington County Museum.

2011: Private Collector: A portière (door curtain, 70" x 84") from a pixelated version of a previous award-winning painting of mine, pieced and quilted from her own and late mother's clothing.

2009-2011: Bethany School, Cincinnati, Ohio: Series of 6 altar frontals for their school chapel.

GROUP AND JURIED SHOWS (Shows with Connections Fibre Artists Shown with *)

2019: "Octarine: The Colour of Magic", with Octarine Women Artists 'Collective, Wellington County Museum, June – October. "

2019: 32 Points – 32 Voices: A Compass of Peace International Exhibition" Cedar Ridge Creative Centre, Toronto, September 6-27

2018: "Lugar", CastrillodelosPolvazares, Spain, September.

"Water for Life", Arta Gallery, Distillery District, Toronto, October.

"As I See It", Overzealous, Toronto, November

2017: "CountryforallSeasons", with OWAC, Homer Watson House & Gallery, Kitchener, February

"Homegrown", Rockwood Library, June "Insights", Elora, June to September "Out of Place", Studio 404, Guelph, July.

2016: "Elemental", with Octarine Women's Art Collective, Joshua Creek Arts Centre, Oakville

2015: "Encore", with Octarine Women's Art Collective, Studio 404, Guelph May 2015.

2014: "Eight Dimensions", with Octarine Women's Art Collective, Studio 404, Guelph, May 2014

"Fibre Content", Burlington Art Gallery, Burlington, September 2014

2013: "Minerals" PDAC Convention at Metro Toronto Convention Centre, March and then at Verona Tessile, Italy, in April.

2012: World of Threads, "De Rerum Natura", Joshua Creek Art Centre, Oakville

World of Threads, "Pentimento", a reprise with Connections Fibre Artists, O'Connor McLeod Art Gallery, Oakville

"Tech-Infused", Silicon W Art Gallery, Waterloo.

2011: "Pentimento", Salmon Arm Gallery, with Connections Fibre Artists* "Wishes"* Joshua Creek Heritage Art Centre, Oakville

"Fibre Optix"*, Orillia Museum & Art Gallery

Rotary Club Dream Home, Guelph

2010: Threadworks 2010, Wellington County Museum

"Naked"*, Carnegie Gallery, Dundas

"Grand National: "Off the Wall", Homer Watson House Gallery, Kitchener

2009: "Hanging by a Thread"*, Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, Almonte

"The Common Thread", International Festival of Threads, b42 Gallery, Oakville "Connections Fibre Artists" Group show*, Leonard Shore Gallery, Thornbury

2008: "Touched by Fire", Gladstone Hotel, Toronto

"Hippie Connections Revisited"*, Joshua Creek Art Centre, Oakville

"Four & Friends", Bruce Mines Community Centre

"Bend Fold Manipulate", ACA Gallery, Toronto

Art in Eden Studio Tour

"Fusion"*, Greenwood Gallery, Guelph

Grand National Quilt Show: "Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow", K-W Art Gallery

- 2007: "Hippie Connections"*, Gallery Lampton, Sarnia
Threadworks 2007, Wellington County Museum
Insights 2007, Elora Arts Council.
Grand National Quilt Show: "Fantasy", Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Hon Mention
- 2006: Insights: Elora Arts Council, Elora. Fibre Art Award Canadian Quilt Guild: "Capital Matters",
Ottawa, Ontario
"Connections in Guelph"*, Guelph Civic Museum,
The Grand National: "Wild Life", Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener
"Spaces in Between": (with Stephanie Bush, Jackie Cytrynbaum, Michele Lavoie and Ann
McCall), Galerie Luz, Montreal, Quebec
- 2005: "Connections @ Homer Watson" Homer Watson House
The Grand National: "Airborne", Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery, Kitchener.
Trilogy: A Show by Jurors, Blue Mountain Foundation for the Arts, Collingwood.
Ontario Juried Quilt Show, University of Waterloo Art Gallery, Waterloo.
- 2004: Threadworks 2004: The Garden Party, Wellington County Museum & tour
The Grand National: "Constructions of Canada", Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery.
Insights 2004 (Elora Arts Council, Elora), Wellington County Museum.
Expressions 2004 (Guelph Creative Arts Association), Barber Gallery, Guelph.
- 2003: Biennale Internazionale dell Arte Contemporanea, Florence, Italy.
- 2003: In Remembrance, Wellington County Museum, with Wendy Donohue. 2002: The 5th Anniversary
Show (Art-in-Guelph)
Insights 2002 (Elora Arts Council, Elora), Wellington County Museum
- 2002: "Fall Fairs of Wellington County" (Georgetown Arts Centre, WCMA (with Rosalyn Insley and
Gail Root)
"The Christmas Show", (Kor Gallery, Kitchener)
- 2001: "The Toy Show" (juried, Art-in-Guelph)
- 2000: "The Power Show" (juried, Art-in-Guelph)
- 2000: "The Twelve Stone Churches of Old Eramosa", (Art-in-Guelph) (with Rosalyn Insley and Gail
Root)
- 1999: "The Last Picture Show" (juried, Guelph)
Here & Now '99, Georgetown 1998, 1999: Expressions (GCAA, Guelph) 1998: Portrait of the
Artist, Elora
"VANISHING LANDMARKS: Barns of Wellington County" (Elora), (with Rosalyn Insley and
Lillan Rosendal)
- 1997: Insights 1997 (Elora Arts Council, Elora)
- 1996: First Born Daughters, Everton, (with June Bernstein and Sophie Johnson)