

The Brooklyn Bee

BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

May 2023

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WHAT A SHOW!

I'm still on cloud nine! I am so proud of our guild and each of you — first for your BEAUTIFUL work! I loved the diversity of styles, the creativity, the care that each of your pieces exuded. The show's organization and presentation was so professional — each detail carefully thought through. Although I don't have the room to thank you all here by name, I am tremendously grateful for you all. I must mention our amazing show coordinators Martha McDonald and Andrew Hansen who oversaw the whole process with grace and fortitude and to Robin Engelman, our all-around fixer!

Don't forget, our May meeting is only on Zoom. Since we only have room for the first 100 attendees, if some of you can meet together for the Zoom meeting, we will get more members in! And it will be more fun for you too! The meeting will be recorded if you are unable to join. We will have a special slideshow from the quilt show to share put together by Larry Sapadin.

Also at our May meeting, the nomination committee will be presenting the slate for next year's board team. Serving on the board of the guild has been a deep privilege and honor for me. I have been blessed and enriched getting to know and working with so many of you.

Sincerely,

Margaret Marcy Emerson

2022-2023 Brooklyn Quilters Guild

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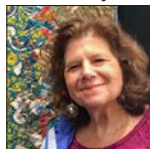


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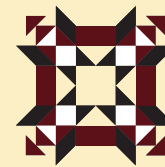
Bee Blasts

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Our Social Media Links

Facebook BOM Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycxzf8fs>

Facebook Member-Only Group

<https://tinyurl.com/ycbwzom9>

Monthly Show and Tell

<https://tinyurl.com/y6xv5wyd>

Instagram

@Brooklyn_Quilters_Guild

YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8Qfeous_lc

Something to share? The deadline for submissions for the June 2023 issue of *The Brooklyn Bee* is 9 a.m., **Monday, May 22, 2023.** Please email to: susan.aronoff@gmail.com.

Guild Meetings

NEXT MEETING: May 20, 2023, 11 a.m.

Zoom only.

ZOOM MEETING LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/y3ekc9ug>

SUNDAY BEES: Join us on the second and fourth Sundays of the month, 1 – 4 p.m. Zoom link information will be emailed on Sunday morning and can always be accessed on the EVENTS page in the Member section of our website.

Guild News & Notes

Community Quilts

The **Hole in the Wall** team collected 3 quilts in March.

Comfort Quilts: 3 quilt tops were collected in March

ABC Quilts: collected 25 quilts.

Pillowcases: 70 completed pillowcase kits were returned and 34 were donated — 30 of which Robin Engelmann found in storage. Currently there are 100 finished cases ready to be delivered. Annette sends a big thank you.

~Debbie Safian

BLOCK OF THE MONTH



The April Block of the Month was tulips. The winner of this tiny garden was Georgia Lale whose last name means tulip in Turkish and whose heart's desire in March was to make a tulip quilt in honor of her Grandfather. Woo hoo Georgia!

Guild Calendar

See the **Bee Blasts** for more information on these events.

May 2023

May 20, 11 a.m. — Guild Meeting on Zoom

Sunday, May 21, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

For registered members: Tara Faughnan Double Wedding Ring workshop.

May 28, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Sewing Bee on Zoom. Host is Carolyn Schwartz.

June 2023

June 17, 11 a.m. — Guild meeting, hybrid/Zoom.

Masks are required to attend the in-person meeting.

New member Show and Tell

Members Boutique and Potluck Lunch. Bring a dish to share.

Details for the New Member Show and Tell, the Members Boutique and the June lunch can be found on page 12.

Membership Report

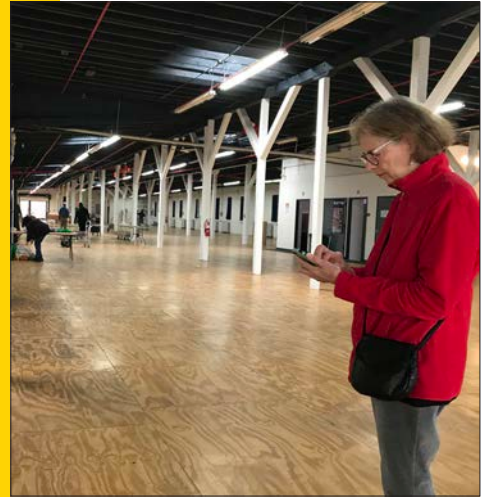
We were pleasantly surprised at how many quilters joined our membership at the Show. Quilting is alive and thriving in Brooklyn! There are currently 221 members. Please welcome

Wendy Aibel-Weiss	Nicole Ansbacher
Lenore Arons	Samantha Bearden
Johanna Bjorken	Kimberly Crowther
Helen Delamarter	Robin Cedeno Dillhunt
Carol Hiler	Sylvia Humphrey
Carol Jefferson	Denise S. Keppel
Elizabeth Konkle	Sam Lucas
Chirlane McCray	Emmett Metier
Lauren Mitchell	Charlene Pickel
Vivian Ubell	

BROOKLYN Quilts!

Moments in Time

SET UP



All photo: courtesy of Michael Janove except where credited otherwise.

VOLUNTEERS



VISITORS



©2023, Susan Aronoff



MEMBERS

To: guild@quiltbrooklyn.org

The quilt show was AMAZING! Thanks so much to all the quilters and organizers!!



©2023, Anthony Briggs

My son and I were simply bowled over by all of the quilts. He was particularly inspired by one of them. It was by Kate Haller, using a "UFO" from the late Anna Foss. He made a drawing at the show (in a grid paper notebook we brought along) and colored it in when we got home. I thought I'd pass along some photos.



ARTISTS

Thanks again for all the wonderful work!

© Madeleine Johnson

BIG JOHN and CREW



©2023, Susan Aronoff



OVERHEARD

"Do you see the cats?"

"No."

"Stand back and look."

"I still don't see them."

"Here are the ears, don't you see them?"

"No."

WHITE GLOVES

TOUR GUIDE IN TRAINING



© Micki Segel



Reigning Cats by Brigette Belletiere

MARTHA AND ANDREW

Creative Community Self-Care A Community-Engaging Art Project

8

BY ELVIRA CLAYTON

M.A.S. (Meditation, Storytelling, and Arithmetic) is an art, wellness, and oral history project devised by Harlem-based artist Elvira Clayton.

Co-facilitated by wellness activist and Brooklyn-based entrepreneur Tameeka Ford, the project engaged women from Brooklyn's aging population to explore ideas around living more fully, self-care practices, and as a collective, create an art quilt.

Considering Audre Lorde's statement, "Caring for myself is not a self-indulgence, it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare" they addressed self-care practices and healing in Black communities.

Due to COVID-19 precautions, the group met through virtual circles online, via Zoom once a week for nine weeks. These weekly meetings provided a safe space where the women discussed historical trauma, resilience, self-care for healing, and Black joy. Each session began with a centering meditation led by Tameeka Ford.

A kit with supplies to create a single quilt panel was mailed to each participant. Once completed, their finished panels were sent back to the project artist Elvira Clayton, who assembled the quilt and edited stories recorded during the virtual meetings to create a "sound quilt."

The M.A.S. community art quilt and its sound piece reflect how self-care practices might bring about positive changes for the project's participants and their communities.

The collective's completed artwork will be exhibited and serve as a tool to activate further discussions and public events around healing and wellness.



Guild Programming:

May

MAY VIRTUAL SHOW AND TELL

Our May Guild meeting will be virtual. Since April showers bring May flowers, and the city is in bloom everywhere, let's see your flower-themed quilts. Realistic, abstract, applique, pieced, collaged, or even a floral color palette... any style of quilt that fits with the flower theme. We also want to see your recent finishes.

Please send photos to Michael Sengstack mgsengstack@msn.com by Friday, May 19th so he can include them in the show and tell slide show on Saturday.

For registered members Tara Faughnan's

DOUBLE WEDDING RING WORKSHOP

Sunday, May 21, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. See the March Bee for more information on Tara or visit

<https://tarafaughnan.com/> to see more of her work.



"Strip Quilt" by Idabell Bester (included in the American Folk Art Museum exhibit)

June

Brooklyn Quilter's Guild Members have been invited for a private tour of the current exhibit, **"What That Quilt Knows About Me"**, at the **American Folk Art Museum** on Friday, June 9th at 2 pm. The museum and the tour are free. The tour can accommodate 15 of our members and will be led by Melissa Uram from the museum. Please RSVP to Micki Segel at mickisegel@gmail.com. The first people to respond will be included, so save the date and respond as soon as possible. The museum is located on the upper west side at 2 Lincoln Square, Columbus Ave at 66th Street. (See image bottom left)

MEMBER'S BOUTIQUE AT OUR JUNE MEETING

Members are welcome to sell fabric and quilt supplies at our June meeting for the Member's Boutique. We will hold the boutique after our June business meeting and before our celebratory potluck luncheon. Each boutique member will be allotted 1/3 to 1/2 of a round table to display their wares. Please contact Micki Segel at 917-596-6055 or email mickisegel@gmail.com if you plan to participate so we will be able to have enough tables available. We also ask that you label your goods with prices and that you take any unsold items home with you after the boutique. The boutique will last for approximately a half hour before we clean up for our luncheon.

NEW MEMBER SHOW AND TELL

We would love to highlight the work of our new members at our June Show and Tell. If you are new to our guild please plan to show your work at our Show and Tell in June

JUNE POT LUCK:

Let's celebrate our 2022–2023 season and our 30th anniversary year with a fun pot luck luncheon at our June meeting.

We are keeping it simple this year. Prepare your favorite dish, mark the contents and bring it with serving utensils. It can be an appetizer, salad, entree, dessert, or special beverage. Hospitality will provide coffee, paper goods, eating utensils and drinks for the event but the rest is up to us.

Look forward to celebrating a great year and spectacular show with everyone. It's time to relax and enjoy ourselves.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to your programming team:

Michael Sengstack mgsengstack@msn.com and Barbara Danzi barbaradanzi@gmail.com.



What Do I Do With This?: The Perennial T-shirt Question

BY SUSAN ARONOFF

From Anne Davenport, our Asheville, North Carolina outpost:

"I have a lot of t-shirts that have small holes in random / inexplicable places and others that are stained. Not things that I would wear or pass on for others to wear. Can you think of a way to recycle them? Throwing them in the trash just seems so wasteful."

Off the bat I can think of a few things to do with old t-shirts.

Tees make great rags...good for dusting and wiping. If you have a serger or know someone with a serger, you could finish the edges to make them look nicer. Zig-zagging would probably do also. I tend to have at them with a scissors.

For clothing that I love, or wish to keep wearing, I've been mending. When I was teaching after school art to kids, I dressed my jeans up with socks... I got very, very fond of my socks. So, darning happened. And because, for some reason I almost always fall and rip holes in new leggings, I started covering up those holes. And so it goes... down the rabbit hole of reuse! My wordy point is that, if any of those stained or holey t-shirts are things you care about or might wear at home (I have a lot of shirts that I only wear at home when I cook, clean (tho not so much cleaning happens here on my part these days <insert big blush>) they are mendable and then they become other.

And, of course, there's always the t-shirt quilt, bag or the braided rug!

Finally, if mending sounds abhorrent, animal rescue shelters could probably use them for cleaning rags. It also depends upon how much time you want to spend dealing with stuff, but Margaret Marcy, Margaret Walsh and Pat Decker make pillows stuffed with fabric remnants for pet shelters. My guess is that t-shirts would make wonderfully soft stuffing.

Input, people, Input!

FOR THIS COLUMN:

If you are, or know, an educator working with groups to create art projects out of waste and have need of something that our Guild members may be able to supply, write in.

Let's use our collective over-flowing garage bins and our creativity to contribute some local solutions to broader problems.

Alzada Boudreaux

with love from Sylvia Munroe and Rae Jerome

Alzada Boudreaux started quilting in January 2007 with the newly formed Golden Saints Quilting Bee at the Christian Cultural Center Church. She loved to sew. She was imaginative and generous. She made sure that everyone in her family got a quilt. Alzada was generous with her time. She was a devoted member of the Brooklyn Quilters Guild where she worked at the admissions desk and with hospitality. She also worked at our Guild shows. She took workshops and classes and went on quilting retreats. Alzada loved to learn. In addition, she belonged to the Quilters of Color Guild in Manhattan where she made innovative quilts and the St John's Recreational Center quilting group in Brooklyn. Alzada had a very giving heart and thought about others before herself. She had an effervescent attitude and was always willing to help. She will be greatly missed.



Gee's Bend Quilters Get Digital

Quilting is having a digital moment. Two years ago, four of the Gee's Bend Quilters collaborated with a digital generative artist, Anna Lucia, who used technology to create a huge series of "digital quilts" derived from original Gee's Bend quilts. Together, Lucia and the four quilters curated the series down to 500 digital quilt images which were then uploaded to the Ethereum online marketplace where they became NFT's (aka: Non Fungible Tokens). Each is a very high resolution color digital image file.

"Generations" was a one-night show and event which features six of the original Gee's Bend quilts along with the 500 digital quilt NFTs, and it was on view May 17th for one-night at Lume Studios (a downtown NYC studio/gallery). NFT sales are ongoing after the event, handled on the ARSNL <http://arsnl.art/generation> website—an NFT Platform created by the venerable Artists Rights Society, founded in 1987 in downtown NY's Tribeca. The "Generations" sale includes the six legacy handmade quilts by Loretta Pettway Bennett, Essie Bendolph Pettway, and Mary Margaret Pettway, daughter of Lucy T. Pettway, and a

new unique Margaret Pettway quilt which is a response to a digital quilt generated by Anna Lucia. In addition, anyone who buys an NFT can commission a custom cloth quilt of their digital quilt from Mary Margaret Pettway.

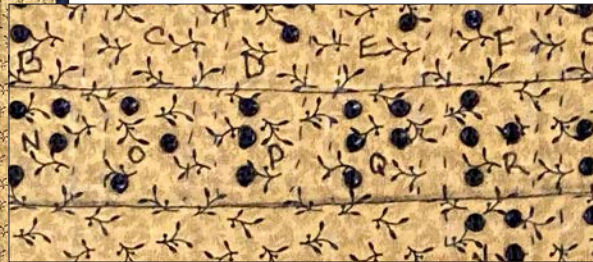
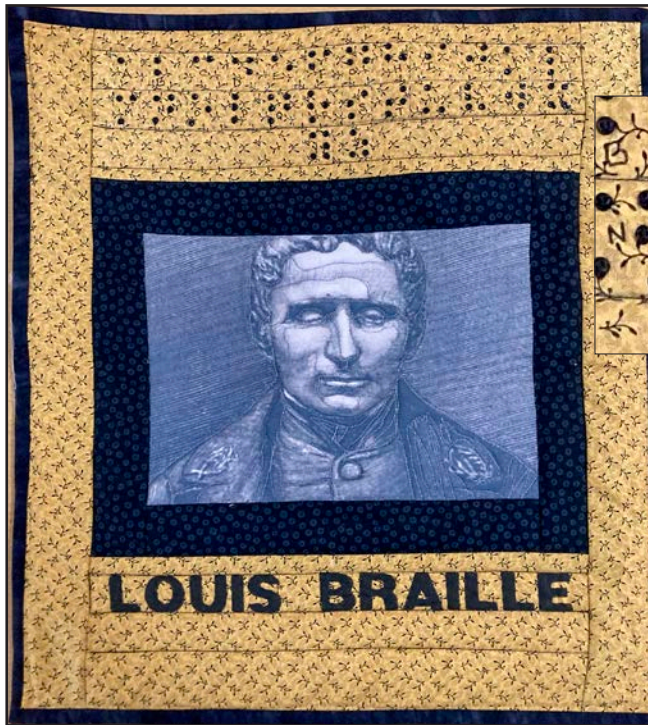
The May 17th event participants included: The Four Quilters of Gee's Bend involved in the project (Louisiana Bendolph, Loretta Pettway Bennett, Lucy Pettway, and Essie Bendolph Pettway) who were not present at the event; the digital artist Anna Lucia (who was at the event), along with ARSNL, Lume Studios, Refraction DAO (a diverse community that produces events and written, visual, or audio content about contemporary culture); and Seed Club DAO (an Internet Native Accelerator that has launched nearly 100 web3 projects since its inception in 2021).

NOTA BENE: DAO's are Decentralized Autonomous Organizations. Ask Google 'what is a DAO' for more info. You could also ask Google 'how do I make an NFT on Ethereum' or 'tell me more about NFTs.' They are a cyber investment which may grow — or diminish — in value.



Left: Generations 'digital quilt' NFT by Anna Lucia.
Right: Physical 'response' quilt made from NFT by Mary Margeret Pettway.
Images courtesy ARSNL.art

Member News and Notes: Sylvia Hernandez



This quilt was a response to the Charleston, South Carolina Library's "Call for Art" for the visually impaired. The beads spell out the alphabet.



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2023 RETREATS

Cross Roads in New Jersey

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Cross Roads is a camp and retreat facility located in Port Murray, NJ, one and a half hours from Brooklyn. Information about Cross Roads can be found on the website, www.crossroadsretreat.com.

2023 Cross Roads retreats

Sunday–Friday June 4–9, 2023

Weekend: Friday–Sunday, June 9–11, 2023

Sunday–Friday October 22–27, 2023

All mid-week retreats are for 5 nights and 14 meals.

Want to come? Interested? Or questions?
Martha Musgrove (marf86@hotmail.com) or
Susan Aronoff (susan.aronoff@gmail.com).

Heritage in Connecticut

The Heritage Hotel is a Spa and Conference Center in Southbury, CT, about one hour and 45 minutes from Brooklyn. For more information, go to: <https://www.heritagesouthbury.com>

2023 Heritage retreats

Monday –Friday July 24–28, 2023

October 23–27, 2023

Please see the Guild website for pricing options.

If interested, please contact Carol Lieberman, 917-439-9549, or email: clieber@verizon.net.

More detailed information on the retreats can be found on the Guild's website at <https://www.quiltbrooklyn.org/retreats>.



Events of Note

Design in Flux
May 6th — June 30th, 2023

Featured Artists:

- Ayala Naphtali
- Barbara Danzi
- Bruce Goldstone
- Christine Economos
- Christine Janove
- Cynthia Clark
- Diana Cherryholmes
- Marilyn Hamilton-Jackson
- Sylvia Hernandez
- William Daniels (co-curator)

Savona Bailey-McClain (Chief Curator)

Nolan Park Build 10B (NP10)
Governors Island

The West Harlem Art Fund

What That Quilt Knows About Me, American Folk Art Museum, March 16, 2023 – October 29, 2023.

<https://folkartmuseum.org/exhibitions/whatthatquiltknowsaboutme/>

Made in NY 2023, Schweinfurth Art Center, March 25 – May 28, 2023. This annual juried exhibit features New York artists working in various media. Guild member Susan Byrnes has work in this show. See images page 11. For more information: <https://schweinfurthartcenter.org>

Roots, Textile Study Group of New York, May 11 – May 31, 2023 El Barrio's Artspace PS109, 215 E 99TH Street, New York, NY. Guild members Susan Byrnes, Barbara Danzi, Christine Janove, Ellen Piccolo and Sheri Werner are represented in this

Bisa Butler, The World is Yours, May 6 – June 20, 2023

For more information: <https://deitch.com/new-york/exhibitions/bisa-butler-the-world-is-yours>

Nancy Crow, Sequences, Riffs & Drawings, June 10 – August 20, 2023, Schweinfurth Art Center. Artist reception July 19, 2023, 6 – 8 p.m.; Gallery talk at 7 p.m. For more information: <https://schweinfurthartcenter.org/nancy-crow-sequences-riffs-and-drawings/>

Anna Lucia X Gee's Bend Quilters Wednesday, May 17, 2023 from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Generations, May 17, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. is a collaboration between the contemporary digital artist Anna Lucia and the Quilters of Gee's Bend. This unique generative collection of digital quilts honors the deep-rooted African American style of quilting that emerged out of Gee's Bend, Alabama. Note that this is a one-night event but the work can be viewed online. For more information see article on [page 9](#) or go to: <http://arsnl.art/generations>

SPRING SUN

May 2023 Block of the Month • BROOKLYN QUILTERS GUILD

By Eleanor Lutz



Fabrics & Cutting

Center (red or bright sunny fabric suggested)

A: 1x Square, **6x6in.**

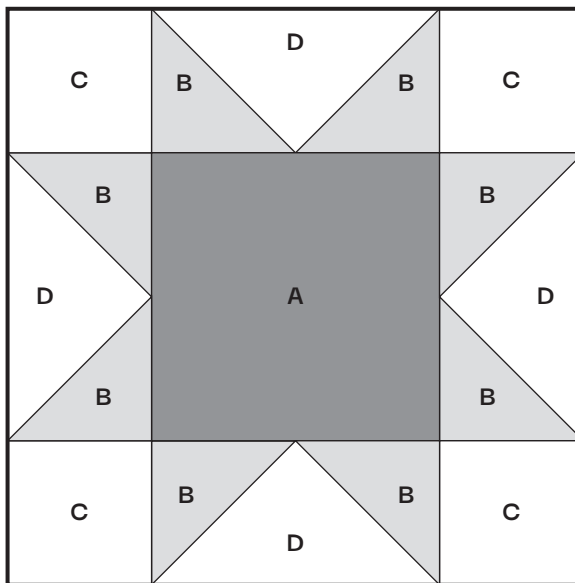
Rays (orange or yellow fabric suggested)

B: 8x Squares, **3.25x3.25in.**

Background (light fabric suggested)

C: 4x Squares, **3x3in.**

D: 4x Rectangles, **6x3.25in.**



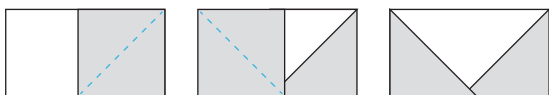
Instructions

All seam allowances are $\frac{1}{4}$ in. Finished block is 11x11in.

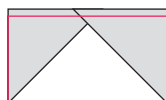
1: Draw one diagonal line on the back of each ray (B) in washable marker or chalk.



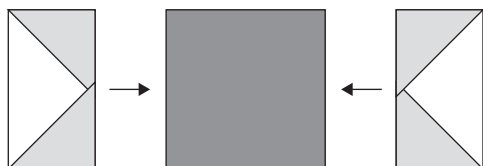
2: Sew the rays (B) onto each of the four of the background squares (D), following the diagonal line you drew earlier.



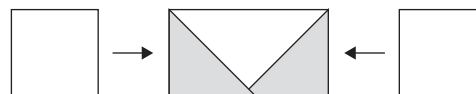
3: Iron flat. Trim the ray pieces down to 6 x 3 in., leaving $\frac{1}{4}$ in. of colorful fabric at the top of the V. This will help straighten out your block if it's a little crooked.



4: Sew two of the background pieces onto the center square (A).



6. On the two remaining background pieces, sew a corner square (C) onto each side.



7. Iron again, then sew all pieces together vertically.

The finished block should be 11 inches square, including seam allowance.

This month we'll celebrate the warmer weather with this cheery sun block.

Bring your block to our next guild meeting to enter the lottery and win that month's collection of blocks! If you can't come to the meeting, you can enter by sharing your block on our B.O.M. Facebook by 10a.m. the morning of the Guild Meeting. Each completed block gives you a chance to win, whether you are present at the meeting or not. Blocks will be collected from those attending the meeting in person. Everyone else will privately mail their blocks to the winner.



facebook.com/groups/838028493370905