

Rosa Kristin Juliusdottir artist/art educator
School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Education
University of Akureyri
Iceland
rosaj@unak.is

Rosa Kristin Juliusdottir graduated from from the department of painting at the Accademia Di Belle Arti in Bologna, Italy 1972. Later Rosa found way for her creative expression in textile works but without abandoning painting. Rosa's works are not traditional quilts but rather painted quilts. They usually have many layers of fabric and you can often see what is under the surface. She seeks inspiration for her works in Nature and likes to look under the surface, for example a ray of sun that lies on the riverbed can be seen through the water.

"Working with fabric, needle and thread awakens my childhood memories of women sewing. I do not, however, make clothes or "useful" things like they did but I try to transfer visual experience and perception in nature into abstract images or visual poetry written with needle and golden thread on to thin fabric, which I have painted" (Rosa Kristin Juliusdottir).

What does it give me to make art works?

"In textile art the artist's hands are always in direct contact with the material. Between the painter and the canvas there is always the brush or the palette knife while the textile artist often holds the material in her hands and nothing is between the hand and the material except perhaps a needle and a thread. My source is the memories from growing up; women sewing, mothers, grandmothers as well as the sensual and visual pleasure that working with fabric and using thread and cloth gives. Unlike traditional quilts, contemporary ones don't necessarily serve the same purpose, they rather like other artworks serve the purpose to stimulate, inspire thoughts or bring joy. It does not matter whether you can wrap a quilt around you or not, because when you make a quilt or a painting the goal is the same; to touch the senses or the soul..." (RKJ).