

Midge Gourlay D.A.

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BIOGRAPHY

Midge Gourlay is a textile artist and teacher, trained at Glasgow School of Art and specialising in embroidered and woven textiles.

Midge has exhibited widely throughout the UK and France and works mainly to commission and for exhibitions. Her work is mainly inspired by West Highland land and seascapes and by regular visits to the Corbières region of southwest France. She uses techniques which include dyeing, fabric manipulation with machine embroidery, paint and handmade silk paper.

A trained teacher at the Jordanhill College of Further Education, Midge has also taught adults, students and primary school children over the years whilst working as an artist on her own work. She is an active exhibiting member of EDGE, the Scottish Textile Art Group and is on the list of artists working for the Church of Scotland.

ARTIST STATEMENT

“The foundation of my work is embroidery and related techniques. I work mainly in silks, unspun or in fabric form. Fabrics and fibres are hand-dyed with either chemical or natural dyes. Silk fibres are felted to create grounds to work into using hand or machine stitchery and embellished with found objects, papers etc. Fabrics are manipulated to create interesting textures and patterns. My recent works are fairly large, unframed wall pieces with colours and textures taken from land and seascapes of the west coast of Scotland and from the landscape of the South of France and Finland. Smaller works are usually framed. Church commissioned work has, to date, been more traditional and detailed due to the client brief, but my recent commission for the Old Parish Church of Hamilton was up-to-date and experimental.”

EXHIBITIONS

- 2009 Winter Warmth**
Park Gallery, Callender Park, Falkirk.
- 2006 Husband & Wife Exhibition**
Peter Potter's Gallery, Haddington
- 2005 EDGE Exhibition**
Blair Castle
- 2004 Gilt Edge. Collins Gallery**
Glasgow

- 2004 Drawings with Threads Weaving Stories**
Castle Gallery, Inverness.
- 2003 EDGE. The Knitting & Stitching Show**
London, Dublin and Harrowgate.
- 2003 Land and Sea**
Solo Exhibition. An Tobar, Tobermory, Isle of Mull.
- 2002 On the Edge**
EDGE Exhibition, Paisley Museum and Art Galleries.
- 2000 To Boldly Sew**
EDGE Exhibition. MacManus Art Gallery, Dundee, and the City Arts Centre, Edinburgh.
- 2000 Family Tree**
A family exhibition at the Link Gallery, The Royal Edinburgh Hospital and the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh and St. John's Hospital, Livingston.
- 1999 Family Tree**
A family exhibition at the Royal Infirmary, Aberdeen.
- 1999 The Art of Stitch**
The Embroiderer's Guild International Open Exhibition. Concourse Gallery, Barbican Centre, London, and the Shipley Art Gallery, Gateshead.
- 1997 The Art of Stitch**
The Embroiderer's Guild International Open Exhibition. Concourse Gallery, Barbican Centre, London and Cliffe Castle, Keighly, West Yorkshire.
- 1995 Tented House of Arts**
Contemporary applied arts at the Edinburgh Book Festival. Edinburgh Festival.
- 1995 Art Bus**
Travelling exhibition, Fife.
- 1995 New Works by the ONE, 6, 7 Group**
Roger Billcliffe Fine Art Gallery, Glasgow.
- 1995 The Art of Stitch**
Embroiderer's Guild International Open Exhibition. Commonwealth Institute, London and the Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester.
- 1984 The Unbroken Thread**
A century of embroidery and weaving at the Glasgow School of Art. Glasgow School of Art.
- 1992 Out of the Frame**
The Crafts Council at the Crafts Council Gallery, London, then touring Wakefield Art Gallery, Herbert Art Gallery, the Coventry Museum and Aberystwyth Art Centre.

1990 Crossing the Border

An exhibition by the ONE,6,7, Group and the 62 Group. Collins Gallery, Glasgow.

1990 Stitched Textiles

The Embroiderer's Guild. Commonwealth Institute London.

COMMISSIONS

2008 Pulpit Hanging, Communion Table Cover and 4 sets of Bible Markers for Old Parish Church of Hamilton.

2007 Pulpit fall for Glencairn Church.

2006 Wall Piece for Lucy.

2006 Pulpit Fall for Almondbank Church.

2005 Wall Piece for Elizabeth.

2005 Two Preaching Stoles for the Moderator of the Church of

2001 Pulpit Fall for Old Scone Parish Church.

2001 Stole for Richard Frazer, Cathedral Church of St. Machar, Old Aberdeen.

2001 Pulpit Fall for Comrie Parish Church.

1999 Stole for Moderator of the Prespytery of Perth

1997 Lectern Fall for Drymen Church.

1996 Lady Minister's Stole for June Cloggie.

1994 Pulpit Fall for Trinity Church, Glasgow.

1993 Pulpit Fall, Communion Table Cover and Bible Markers, Park Church, Helensburgh.

1993 Pulpit, Lectern Falls and Bible Markers for Kemback Church, Fife.

1989 Pulpit Fall for Drymen Church.

1977 Pulpit Fall for Inverleith Church, Edinburgh.

1977 Embroidered Dresses & Jackets for BBC Television

1975 Offering Bags for Killearn Church.

AWARDS & REVIEWS

To Boldly Sew: Textiles for 21st Century CD ROM. Available in all Scottish Schools and Colleges.

Article in *World of Embroidery*, May 2000.

Article in *World of Embroidery*, November 2000.

Featured in the article *Art and Artists in Argyll and Bute* by Marshall Anderson, *Art Review*, September 1999.

Work featured on STV's *The Home Show*, 1999, 2000, 2001.

Exhibition review in *World of Embroidery*, September 1999.

Exhibition review in *World of Embroidery*, May 1999.

Work illustrated in *Design in Embroidery*, by Kathleen Whyte. Published by Batsford, 1983.

Work illustrated in *Three Dimensional Embroidery*, by Hannah Frew Paterson. Published by Van Nostrand Reinhold, 1975.

Design Commendation, CND Competition to Design the Peace Embroidery.