

2011 Award of Merit



The Four Humours

Margaret Dunsmore, Ottawa, Ontario, 2011

17.5" x 33.5" each of 4 panels

Cotton prints, embellishments - plastic, glass, metal and crystal beads and gem stones, lace, ribbon and cording. Turned hand and machine appliqué, machine embroidery, machine quilting.

Inspiration & credits: the face cards in decks of playing cards

I wanted to do a series of portraits, each presenting a distinct personality that reflected in facial expression, body language and use of colour. A fascination with the design of face cards led me to work with that basic structure on a series of four queens. The more I worked with these archetypes, the more I came to realize that we all need some aspects of these character traits if we are to achieve our goals, develop our creativity, get along with and inspire others and stand up for ourselves when we aren't being treated fairly - in other words, to find some balance in our lives.