

## **Brenda Wroe**

## **Artist Statement**

In all my work I am inspired by travel, local history and the challenges of the natural environment.

My work is grounded in personally creating cloth which gives me the freedom to create art which reflects my love of bold and contrasting colours.

I choose the cloth I use for my work carefully, preferring silk, cotton or blend of the two, although I also love to recycle vintage linens. Radiance from Hoffman is my favourite blend as its high gloss sheen contributes to the luminosity my quilts. Using Shibori-style folds and resists I hand dye my fabric using Procion MX dyes and often add ice to the process to disperse the dye molecules and create exciting surprise effects. US fibre artist, Cindy Lohbeck introduced me to ice-dyeing and is my inspiration to explore this process further.

I add stitch to my work using hand-guided improvised quilting on a longarm machine and use two layers of wadding, both wool and cotton, to generate further contrast and depth to the textured surface. The final touches are made with small bead embellishment on the quilted surface.

The subject and focus of my quilts is revealed when the shapes and colours in the dyed cloth combine with my thoughts, feelings and imagination in a spontaneous and serendipitous way.

I am a member of Contemporary Quilt Group (CQ) of the Quilters Guild of the British Isles and Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA). My work has been selected for exhibition throughout the UK and in Europe, US, Russia and China.

Creating textile art and participating in the community of art quilters are both key ingredients for a happy and rewarding life for me.

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