

Jean McLaughlin Cowie, *Fall Aspen*, via email to Jennifer Mayer on 10/28/15

Birth year: 1955

Explanations of process and technique:

This art quilt was made using hand dyed and commercial fabrics to create a favorite fall mountain scene of mine...aspen leaves turning. Leaves are raw edge appliquéed changing from green to gold to red with leaf cutouts behind to create a shadow of leaves in the background. The appliquéed tree trunk and branches are finely detailed with free motion machine stitching. The fabric design is layered atop cotton batting and a cotton backing and then free motion machine quilted.

Inspiration or Intent behind the piece:

My art pieces are inspired by mental or actual photographs that take root in dreams, boldly combining the wonders of nature, geometric shapes and color palettes into abstractions or inventive interpretations of reality. Never touching pencil to paper, I construct my works directly from those mental pictures onto fabric. Each design evolves as a variety of fabrics, many of which I hand paint or dye, are combined with traditional, reverse or raw edge appliqué into recognizable images. Perspective is developed through imaginative blending and contrasting of color, while free motion stitching and fabric manipulation extend depth of field and add textural detail. Each piece is an original one-of-a-kind design where I attempt to share with my audience a sense of the beauty, color and fun I see in the world.