

Cloth Doll

- DESIGNED, & CONSTRUCTED BY: Caryl Bryer Fallert
- DATE: 1989
- SIZE: +/- 16" high
- PHOTO: Caryl Bryer Fallert
- COLORS: Black, white, & rainbow colors
- FABRICS: Cotton & silk fabric, Acrylic yarn, polyester stuffing
- TECHNIQUES: Hand dyed, hand painted, embroidered
- IDENTIFYING MARKS: Signature and label
- OWNER: Private collection, Vancouver, WA



Design Concept & Process:

In 1989 I was challenged by Elinor Peace Bailey to make a cloth doll for her book *Mother Plays with Dolls*. I had never made a doll before, but it sounded like a fun challenge.

This doll ended up being a bit autobiographical. She has my wild curly red hair, made of unplyed yarn. At the time I made her, I was two years into my 30 year career of teaching and lecturing on the national and international quilt seminar circuit. I was also still working as a flight attendant for United Airlines, and often came home from a busy teaching trip, only to rise early the next morning and don my airline uniform. The doll is dressed in the sort of outfit I wore as an itinerate art teacher, something bright and splashy on the top and comfortable travel clothes underneath. On one arm she carries a typical quilt conference bag, embellished with pins representing various quilting tools. On the other arm she carries a typical flight attendant tote bag with the United Airlines logo, made from a piece of one of my old uniforms. A scrap from one of my uniform scarves hangs out of the bag. The tunic was a piece of painted silk left over from an ensemble I made for the Fairfield Fashion Show in 1989. It was supposed to be a sleeve for a blouse, but the dye ran as I was painting it, so it ended up as a doll dress.

Exhibitions:

- Mother Plays with Dolls (exhibit was in Houston for the International Quilt Festival (probably 1990) and may have traveled after that)



Publications:

- Mother Plays with Dolls, McLean, Va.: EPM Publications, ©1990: Elinor Peace Bailey pp. 70-71



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CARYL BRYER FALLERT-GENTRY • QUILT ART RECORD

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