

New Dawn

- Designed, Pieced, Appliqued, and Quilted by: Caryl Bryer Fallert
- Date: 2000
- Size: 78" high x 63" wide
- Colors: All colors of the color wheel, and gold
- Materials: fabric: 100% cotton and various synthetics / batting: 80% cotton / 20% polyester
- Care: Shake to remove dust. Washing or dry cleaning is not recommended. If absolutely necessary, dry clean or hand wash in tepid water with Synthrapol
- Techniques: Hand dyed & painted, machine pieced, machine appliqued, machine quilted
- Identifying Marks: Signature & label
- Owner: Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry
- Photo: Caryl Bryer Fallert
- Price: \$34,000.00



Design Concept and Process:

This is one of a series of quilts about birds as symbols of freedom and the joy of life. It was made in the year 2000 especially to celebrate the dawning of the new millennium. I chose the mythical Phoenix as a symbol of leaving behind the old and beginning anew. To me the Phoenix is a beautiful symbol of the ability of life and beauty to rise out of decay and destruction. The transition to a new millennium gave us a reason to think about what was good about the old millennium, and what we would like to change. It gave us a chance to focus our visions and make new and positive choices for ourselves and for our world.

Since the Phoenix is a mythical bird and there are no photographs of it, the bird in this quilt is entirely a product of my imagination. The design evolved over a period of several months. I spent days drawing wing feathers and heads of real birds to get the feeling of how feathers work together, and how they relate to the rest of a bird. My Phoenix is a composite of many different elements from many different birds. Since the wings form a perfect circle (symbol of wholeness) the feathers had to be designed to fit the contour of this geometric shape. A spiral (symbol of new growth and reemergence) of "flying geese" emerge from the mouth of the Phoenix. They are made from a gradation of rainbow colors, symbolizing light, and the energy of life.

The Phoenix itself is made from a variety of iridescent and metallic fabrics. The long tail is intertwined with the flames, which have consumed the old Phoenix, and from which the new Phoenix is rising. As the Phoenix rises from the flames, it is about to fly through a portal of black white and grey, toward clear skies and unlimited possibilities beyond. In the corners of the portal are a golden sun and a fire colored sun. These represent energy that can be either nurturing or destructive. Our choice.

Exhibitions:

- Millennium Quilt Contest, Quilt Festival, November 2-5, 2000, Houston, TX spexhibits@quilts.com (and traveling)
- Burlington Arts Center, Burlington, Ontario, Canada, Caryl Bryer Fallert: A Sense of Wonder, Solo Exhibition, Feb.-Mar. 2001
- Thirty Distinguished Quilters in the World, Tokyo, Japan, January 2002
- Quilting the Quilt, Duluth, MN, 2002 (best domestic machine quilting)
- Little White School Museum, Solo Exhibition, Oswego, IL 2003
- Museum of the American Quilters Society: 20th Anniversary AQS Best of Show Exhibit 2004, Paducah KY
- "Evolving Styles - 20 Years of Color & Design" Solo Exhibition: LaConner Quilt Museum, LaConner WA, March 16 - May 15, 2005
- Quilting by the Lake: Faculty Exhibition, 2005, Morrisville, NY
- Jinny Beyer Quilting Seminar 2006: Faculty Exhibition, Hilton Head Island, NC
- National Quilting Association Show, 2006, Columbus, OH (invitational)
- Silver Star Salute: Retrospective Solo Exhibition 2006 International Quilt Market/Festival, Houston TX
- Full-Spectrum: Natural Fibers, Quilts & Textile Arts, Binghamton University Art Museum, Binghamton NY, Sept 10-December 18, 2009
- Wisconsin Museum of Quilts and Fiber Arts, (retrospective exhibition of my work) Cedarburg, WI, January 14-April 12, 2015
- Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry: A Retrospective, New England Quilt Museum, Lowell, MA, August 20 - October 31, 2015
- Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry: 40 Years of Color, Light, & Motion, University Museum, University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS, January 26 - April 16, 2016
- Fantasies in Fiber & Beads: (two person show) Northwind Arts Center, Port Townsend, WA, May 5-29, 2016
- Caryl Bryer Fallert-Gentry: 40 Years of Color, Light, & Motion,
 - Mitchell Museum, Cedarhurst Center for the Arts, Mt. Vernon, IL, July 31-October 9, 2016
 - Nixon Centre for Performing & Visual Arts, Newnan, GA January 9 - February 17, 2017
 - Texas Quilt Museum, La Grange, TX • March 30 - June 25, 2017

Publications:

- Quilts Japan: 2001: January, p. 31

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- Quilters Newsletter Magazine, 2001, April, p. 35
- Fairfield Processing Ad. Fall 2002, numerous sewing and quilting periodicals
- Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature, Baylor University Press, 2007, Cover & page 181
- The Quintessential Quilt: Commemorative Catalogue of the 2006 International Quilt Festival, Houston, TX., p.24



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