

STITCHED LEGACIES OF CONFLICTS

ARPILLERAS ARE THREE DIMENSIONAL TEXTILES, USUALLY STITCHED BY WOMEN LIVING IN OR ON THE MARGINS OF CONFLICT. THEY PROVIDE AN INSIGHT INTO THE STRUGGLES ENDURED AND DEMONSTRATE THE RESILIENCE AND COURAGE OF INDIVIDUALS IN SURVIVING CONFLICT.

“Arpilleras have become a recognised language, powerfully narrating peoples lived experiences of conflict when words fail to do so.”

Roberta Bacic

Arpilleras became the medium for women, generally working collectively, to denounce the human rights abuses and repression of the Pinochet dictatorship in Chile, 1973-1990. Since 2008, they are increasingly being used as a way to share experiences of current and historical conflicts.

During PEACEIII Cultural Fusions 2011- 2013 arpilleras from Chile, England, Catalonia, Basque Country, Peru and Colombia were used to encourage personal reflections on The Troubles in the

Causeway and Mid Antrim area. Supporting this work were the local images and objects related to The Troubles from our museum archives. The result in 2012 was a new body of arpilleras from our communities. These pieces have gone on to inspire reflection and dialogue on Northern Ireland in London, Germany, Chile, Argentina and Wales. They have reached international audiences and are now being used in the Causeway area to encourage new reflections on The Troubles and other conflicts including World War One.

“reflection and how therapeutic it made me feel“

“how easy it is to share stories“

PEACE III participants



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