



Arpilleras (arr-pee-airahs) are stitched appliqué textile wall hangings that tell a story. They became prominent in Chile during the 1973 to 1990 dictatorship as they portray women's struggles in their everyday lives. The tapestries often have a "relief" quality and are far from two dimensional pictures. The scrap material and stitching that ultimately create the simple and clear lines and forms of the figures and motifs depicted on these arpilleras allow the viewer to perceive the determination of these Chilean craft women.

Roberta Bacic
curator
www.cain.ulst.ac.uk/quilts



La Embajada de Chile en Irlanda tiene el placer de presentar con motivo de las celebraciones del Bicentenario de la Independencia la exposición Arpilleras Embajadoras, a cargo de la destacada curadora chilena Roberta Bacic. Esta muestra ha sido presentada exitosamente en Nueva York, Londres y Berlín y en esta oportunidad en Dublín con motivo del día nacional de Chile.

Esperamos que disfruten esta exposición.
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CHILEAN EMBASSY, DUBLIN

Chilean Arpilleras of Yesterday and Today: Textile Ambassadors



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Arpilleras

[arr-pee-air-ahs]

At the time they were done they depicted what was actually happening, today they are witnesses to what can not be forgotten and is part of our present past and legacy.



The Chilean cultural tradition of the arpillera is celebrated in this collection - that marks the 200th anniversary of independence - in its traditional and politicised form. It also shows its evolution beyond Chile to Peru, where women used this craft to sew together the concerns and hopes of themselves and their communities and engage new audiences, and its most recent incarnations in England and Ireland where traditional quilting styles have absorbed the arpillera style and made it into something fresh and unique.

Photos by Martin Melaugh, Jürgen Schaffer & Colin Peck



List of pieces on display

Mapa de Chile / Chile Map

Aurora Ortiz, Santiago de Chile, 2009, exhibited for the first time at this Dublin Chilean Embassy Exhibition, Curator's private collection

Volcán Osorno / Osorno Volcano

Fundación Solidaridad, Santiago de Chile, 2007, Curator's private collection

Los Mapuche / The Mapuche

Anon, Chilean Arpillera, Santiago, c.1983, Courtesy Silvia Caspers, Germany

Vida en nuestra Población / Life in our Neighborhood

Anon, Chilean Arpillera, Santiago, c.1985, Courtesy Kinderhilfe Chile-Bonn, Germany

Vamos a la Playa / Let's go to the Beach

Anon, Chilean Arpillera, Santiago, c.1977, Courtesy Kinderhilfe Chile-Bonn, Germany

Nuestra Carnicería / Our Butcher's

Anon, Chilean Arpillera, Santiago, c.1976, Curator's private collection

La gente necesita trabajar / People need work

Anon, Chilean Arpillera, Santiago, c.1975, Courtesy Rosario Miralles, Spain

Lavandería Santa María/ Santa Maria laundrette

Anon, Chilean Arpillera, Santiago, c.1983, Courtesy of Lala Winkley, London, England

No contaminar / Do not pollute

Anon, Chilean Arpillera, Santiago, c.1983, Courtesy of Kinderhilfe, Chile-Bonn

Hogar Dulce Hogar / Home Sweet Home

T.L. Mujeres Creativas arpilleras workshop, Lima Peru, 1985, Curator's private collection



Los precios están en las nubes / Prices are sky high

L.C.C. Mujeres Creativas arpilleras workshop, Lima, Peru, 1985, Courtesy of Rebecca Dudley, USA / Northern Ireland

Taller de arpilleras Mujeres Creativas / 'Mujeres Creativas' arpilleras' workshop

TF. Ch. Mujeres Creativas arpilleras workshop, Lima, Peru, 1987, Curator's private collection.

Ely's Farmers' Market

Linda Adams, English arpillera, 2010, First exhibited at *Feminist Art Exhibition: The wars on women: peace works*, Hanna's House Summer School 2010, Belfast 27-29 August 2010, New piece in preparation for solo exhibition in 2011, Courtesy of the artist