

Conflict Textiles Exhibition

**International Refugee Week – Community as Superpower
21 – 30 June 2025**

This special exhibition marks International Refugee Week 2025 and features eight remarkable embroideries from different parts of the world displayed for the first time and recently donated to Causeway Coast and Glens Museum Service by Roberta Bacic - Conflict Textiles' curator.

The exhibition also includes eleven other arpilleras – from the Museum Service Collection and the Conflict Textiles Collection.

These beautiful & powerful textile works are created by communities in response to conflict in their home countries. From intricate stitching, handmade dolls to colourful embroidery, each arpillera tells a powerful story of resilience, joy, and beauty amidst conflict.

ARPILLERAS

Threads of Life

Bienvenida a las personas refugiadas - Pancarta para acciones no-violentas

Displacement

North Belfast Friendship Club 2019

Aleppo school / Escuela en Aleppo, Siria

Fin de semana en una población / Weekend in a población

From Displacement to Empowerment

Irene MacWilliam

Pat Hume

Hogar Dulce Hogar / Home Sweet Home

Nuestro Taller de Arpilleras / Our Arpilleras Workshop

Full details of each arpillera can be found at www.cain.ulster.ac.uk/conflicttextiles

EMBROIDERIES

Donated to Causeway Coast and Glens Museum Services by Roberta Bacic, Conflict Textiles.

Origin - Japan, Panama, Mexico, Palestine, Pakistan, Colombia, Peru, Zimbabwe.

PAINTINGS

Two paintings are on display by Mozghan Mehrabi, an artist from Iran – ‘Migration’ and ‘Hotel’. They express the experience of leaving a homeplace, and of being homed temporarily in a hotel. The following text is written by the artist for each piece.

MIGRATION

Beneath the surface lies a delicate bouquet—vivid, tender, full of silent grace. But violent strokes of colour have been thrown across it, not with care, but with force.

The beauty was not erased—it was buried.

It still breathes, hidden under chaos, waiting.

Only a few leaves stretch upward through the harsh layers—those are fragments of hope.

The same hope carried by a migrant:

To find new soil,
to plant roots once more,
to rise, and one day,
to bloom again.

HOTEL

Imagine life in a hotel, where every guest comes from a different city, a different country, each with their own culture.

Each person in the hotel plays a different role:

One is kind and good-hearted.

Another might have bad intentions.

Someone is hiding their true self.

Another wants to show off and be seen.

One is trying to impress others.

So, the hotel becomes a small world, a reflection of real life — full of different people, different stories, different masks.