

FRAUEN IN DER EINEN WELT • POSTFACH 210421 •  
D-90122 NÜRNBERG

### Main exhibition of the year 2009: 9th of May to 26th of July

Inauguration: Saturday 9th May  
Opening hours: Thursday to Sunday  
Guided tours by appointments

Schicksalsfäden - Geschichten in Stoff von Gewalt, Hoffen und Überleben  
**Threads of destiny: Testimonies of violence, hope and survival.**  
Hilos del destino: Testimonios textiles de violencia, esperanza y sobrevivencia

How do women use textile art to keep hope alive and to survive in conditions of political violence? This exhibition of quilts and wall hangings from around the world gives testimony to women's often successful efforts to overcome adversity, both through group and individual creativity with fabric.

The concept of our museum in organising the exhibition is to connect local, regional and international cultures of women as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Women in One World. It continues the long lasting cooperation with women's groups and textile artists all over the world. The first fruit was the touring exhibition "The Art of Survival", which became part of an international conference in Nuremberg and went to the World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995.

This aspirational work was strengthened by academic study with regional quilting groups on the topic of "Textile Art and Resistance", taken in cooperation with the Asian Women Human Rights Council in India. This in turn led to a conference in South Africa, a project with catholic and protestant women's groups in Northern Ireland and relations with countless artists and researchers in all parts of the world. The latest manifestation of such intense and consistent international cooperation is this exhibition of a multitude of new works in fabric not shown before in Germany.

**It is about connecting regional with international art.** The 33 examples come from the city of Fürth, Central Franconia, Germany; Northern Ireland; the United States; Palestine; India; Chile; Argentina; Peru; Afghanistan and Nigeria.

FRAUEN  
IN DER  
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WELT

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Link:www.womeninmuseum.org

It is combining old and new techniques as well as different art traditions: **folk art with modern fine art.**

**It presents regionally and internationally acknowledged artists** such as Heidi Drahotová, Ursula Kreutz, Margot Protze, Elisabeth Bala, Mara Loytved-Hardegg, Rosa Gabriel, Ruth Böhm from Germany and Ana Zlatkes from Argentina, all of whom base their work on the theme of this exhibition.

**It offers workshops and open discussions** conducted by regionally and internationally known quilting artists such as Freyja Filipp (Forchheim); Maria Kreiss (Rumania; Erlangen); Anita Leutwiler (Switzerland/Herzogenaurach); Mary Good (USA/Ireland); Irene MacWilliam (Northern Ireland).

**It engages in interreligious debates** on conflict, reflected through the participation of Northern Irish quilting groups, Muslim embroiderers from Afghanistan, a Jewish contributor and a creation on this relationship by the German artist Rosa Gabriel.

**Activities alongside the exhibition.** As in former exhibitions, there will be a series of lectures and workshops based on the general theme or on some of the individual works. Such presentations will deal on different levels of textile techniques, art appreciation and the social, cultural and political background of these works. For example, there will be lectures on an educational needlework project for poor women at the beginning of the 20th century; the cultural-historical background of political textile art; the situation of women in Afghanistan, Peru and Chile during the dictatorships in their countries.

Other workshops will be offered to women's groups with an interest in the topic and in textile art itself: the meaning as well as the techniques. These workshops are organised in cooperation with regional and international textile artists, the Volkshochschule Fürth (local institution of adult education) and the Retirement Home in Burgfarrnbach. Through these activities, a program for pupils from Fürth and the surrounding villages will be developed.

**Curators:**

Roberta Bacic, Chile/Northern Ireland  
Prof. Dr. Gaby Franger, Coburg/Nürnberg  
Annita Reim, Fürth

**Committee for implementation/planning/organization:**

Elisabeth Bala, Freyja Filipp, Flores König, Anita Leutwiler, Mara Loytved-Hardegg, Annita Reim, Doris Wienke

**January 2<sup>nd</sup> 2009**