

INTERNATIONAL QUILT STUDY CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

June 2003 - June 2004

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear IQSC Supporters,

The IQSC continues to expand access and increase knowledge of the IQSC collection. This academic year, in an effort to enhance access to the collections, the IQSC introduced a new website and searchable database, developed by IQSC assistant curator, Marin Hanson. The website features an updated look and new information, as well as old favorites such as the Quilt of the Month program. The new searchable database enables online audiences to view detailed information about more than 1200 quilts anytime, anywhere. The website has garnered an average of 400,000 hits per month since its debut in October 2003! If you haven't made a cyber-visit, do so in the near future. You will be amazed by the array of quilts and the ease with which you can search IQSC collections from near or far.

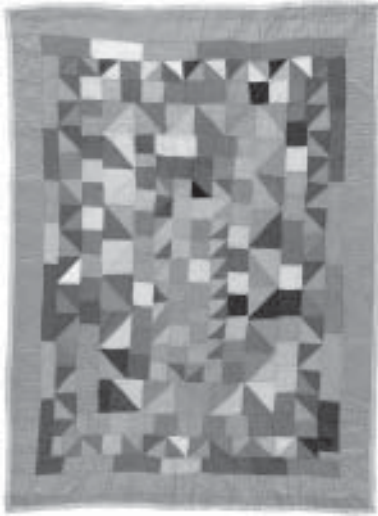
Visitors in ever-increasing numbers travel to the International Quilt Study Center from across the country and around the world. In the first seven years of its existence, more than 6,500 people toured the International Quilt Study Center's state-of-the-art storage facility, while more than 45,000 more toured the various campus exhibitions during the same period curated by IQSC staff and graduate students. Collaboration with the Museum of Nebraska History for the first time this spring is helping us bring increased audiences to an appreciation for the legacy of frontier quiltmakers. "Patchwork Lives," curated by IQSC curator Carolyn Ducey and guest curator Stephanie Whitson opened in April to an appreciative audience and will continue on view for two years.

Since the inception of the textile history/quilt studies distance delivery masters program, graduate enrollment has tripled in the Department of Textiles, Clothing and Design. This unique degree program allows students across the globe the opportunity to study with some of the world's foremost authorities on the American quilt and related topics in textile history. An engaged



IQSC Highlights, 2003-2004:

- Launched a new website and searchable database
- Acquired the Jonathan Holstein Collection, which includes the 1971 Whitney Museum exhibition quilts, as well as the finest collection of Lancaster County, PA, Amish quilts in existence
- Held first annual Quilt Identification Day: IQSC staff helped visitors identify and document their family quilts
- Acquired the Barber Collection of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, Amish quilts



A quilt from the newly-acquired Barber Collection

and enthusiastic group of students are pursuing masters degrees to prepare for careers or career advancement in museums, historic houses, galleries, auction houses and government agencies. Five students graduated during this academic year – Janneken Smucker, Janet Evenson, Deborah Rake, Nao Nomura, and Beverly Teche. We wish them much success.

With your help we achieved our goal in July 2003 of raising sufficient endowment funds (more than \$1.5 million) to reach our required match for the National Endowment for the Humanities Challenge Grant. This endowment to support IQSC activities solidly positions us for the future. Now we turn to our dream of making an IQSC building a reality.

I share with you these accomplishments and dreams and thank you for helping enlarge our reach and shape our future. Because your support is consistent with your appreciation for quilts and desire to preserve this wonderful tradition for future generations, you are helping us support new avenues of scholarship and bring this knowledge to new audiences. Many thanks for your continuing generosity and support.

Sincerely,
Patricia Crews
Director

A NEW BUILDING FOR THE IQSC

The International Quilt Study Center, home to the largest publicly-owned collection of quilts and the only academic center in the world to offer a graduate degree in Textile History with a Quilt Studies emphasis has grown beyond its current space. In 2003 the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Academic Planning Committee approved planning and fund development for a building to be located on East Campus. The building will reflect the importance of the IQSC Collections, which include some of the most significant historic and artistic treasures relating to quilts and quilting traditions in the world. The building will act as the IQSC's public face, reflecting the type of experience that people anticipate when they plan a visit to a site with cultural and social significance.

The new building will accommodate the increasing numbers of national and international visitors to the IQSC each year. In 1998, approximately 500 people visited the IQSC's storage facility. By 2003 that number had doubled. In addition, more than 20,000 people toured the International Quilt Study Center's 2003 exhibitions on the UNL campus. Work areas *dedicated* to collections care, conservation, and research will allow more visitors to observe recommended museum practices for care of quilts and historic textiles.

The building will also provide year-round exhibition space, expanded storage capacity, and space for visiting scholars and students to examine quilts and perform material analysis. Enhanced research facilities will attract visiting scholars from around the world. This, in turn, will provide exceptional opportunities for UNL graduate students and faculty to become engaged in collaborative research projects with renowned scholars attracted to the UNL campus by the IQSC's unique resources.

Interested in donating to the IQSC building fund? Contact:
Greg Jensen, Director of Development
University of Nebraska Foundation
1010 Lincoln Mall, Ste. 300
Lincoln, NE 68508
402-472-0423 or 800-432-3216 or gjensen@foundation.nebraska.edu



An artist's concept drawing of what the IQSC's future building may look like

Mary Campbell Ghormley Reading Room

A reading room in the new IQSC building will honor Lincoln Quilters Guild founding member Mary Ghormley. The Lincoln Quilters Guild recognized Mary's invaluable leadership and commitment to the world of quilting and pledged \$50,000 to establish the Mary Campbell Ghormley Reading Room. It will house Mary's extensive library of quilting books and information – a collection that she has consistently shared with others, particularly students at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The Guild is partnering with the University of Nebraska Foundation to raise the needed funds.

PUBLIC PROGRAMMING & SYMPOSIA

New Exhibitions



Visitors viewing the distinctive quilts in *Modern Marvels: Quilts Made from Kits, 1915-1950* at the Robert Hillestad Gallery, UNL

Tours and Special Programs

IQSC staff and volunteers gave tours of the IQSC storage facility and exhibitions to approximately 50 groups this year.

In addition, staff members traveled regionally and nationally, presenting programs that focus on the IQSC and its collections. Informative programs were presented to:

- Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney, NE
- Northwest Suburban Quilters Guild, Arlington Heights, IL
- National Quilting Day in Lincoln and Ashland, NE
- Nebraska Museums Association Annual Conf.
- Cather Circle, University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- Dawson County Historical Museum
- Nebraska City Public Library

Each year the IQSC develops exhibitions that travel to local, national and international venues. Each exhibition features quilts that have not been previously shown, ensuring that visitors will see new and interesting quilts each time they return. During 2003-2004 the IQSC organized the following exhibitions in Lincoln:

- *At the Crossing: Midwestern Amish Crib Quilts and the Intersection of Cultures*, hosted by the Great Plains Art Collection, Christlieb Gallery, UNL. Exhibition curator: Janneken Smucker.
- *Modern Marvels: Quilts Made from Kits, 1915-1950*, hosted by the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery, UNL. Exhibition curator: Deborah Rake.
- *Indigo Gives America the Blues*, hosted by the Lentz Center for Asian Culture, UNL. Exhibition curator: Nao Nomura.
- *Patchwork Lives*, hosted by the Museum of Nebraska History. Exhibition curators: Carolyn Ducey and Stephanie Whitson.
- *Design Dynamics of Log Cabin Quilts: Selections from the Jonathan Holstein Collection*, hosted by the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery, UNL. Exhibition curator: Judy Schwender.

Traveling Exhibitions

African-American Quilts from the Robert and Helen Cargo Collection traveled to:

- The Textile Museum (Washington, D.C.)
- Savannah College of Art and Design (Savannah, GA)

At the Crossing: Midwestern Amish Crib Quilts and the Intersection of Cultures traveled to

- The People's Place Museum (Intercourse, PA),
- University of Rhode Island Textile Museum (Kingston, RI)
- The Amish and Mennonite Museum at Goshen College, (Goshen, IN).

Lectures Sponsored by the IQSC

A number of exciting lectures were delivered by Visiting Faculty Fellows and other invited speakers. They included:

- “Kit Quilts: More Than They Were Cut Out to Be,” Merikay Waldvogel, 2003 Visiting Faculty Fellow, June 25, 2003
- “The Amish and Their Quilts” Sara Miller, Amish crib quilt collector, October 15, 2003
- “Memory on Cloth: Shibori Now,” Yoshiko Wada, textile artist and author, January 28, 2004
- “Indigo Dyeing Techniques,” Jay Rich, fiber artist, January 31, 2004
- “The Fiber of Our Lives: Why Textiles Matter,” Beverly Gordon, 2004 Visiting Faculty Fellow, March 5, 2004
- “Time Travel the Calico Trail,” Stephanie Whitson, guest curator of *Patchwork Lives*, April 15, 2004



Yoshiko Wada giving her lecture, “Memory on Cloth: Shibori Now”

New Website and Online Image Database

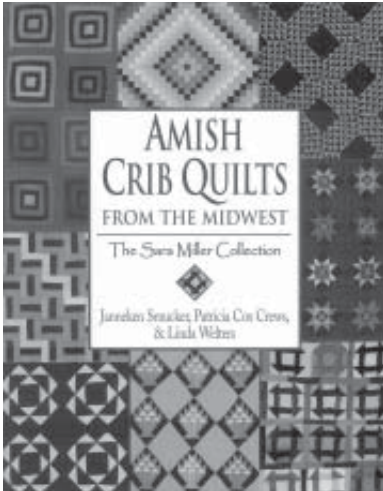
In October, the IQSC launched a newly-designed website with a brand-new feature: an online image database that allows anyone, anytime, anywhere to search its extensive quilt collections. Online audiences are now able to go to the IQSC website and link directly to the database of more than 1200 quilts, viewing detailed information about each quilt as well as full-color images. Searching capabilities include searching by pattern name, quiltmaker, location of origin, date, and predominant technique, among others. For those who are unable to attend one of the IQSC’s many local and traveling quilt exhibitions, users are also able to search the database by exhibition name, creating a virtual quilt gallery on their computer screen. Another highlight is the ability to search by collection name; for instance, viewing all of the quilts in the 930-piece Ardis and Robert James Collection, the 156-piece Robert and Helen Cargo African-American Quilt Collection, or the 90-piece Sara Miller Amish Crib Quilt Collection. The IQSC will be adding the newly-acquired 400-piece Jonathan Holstein Quilt Collection to the database in the coming year.

Quilt of the Month

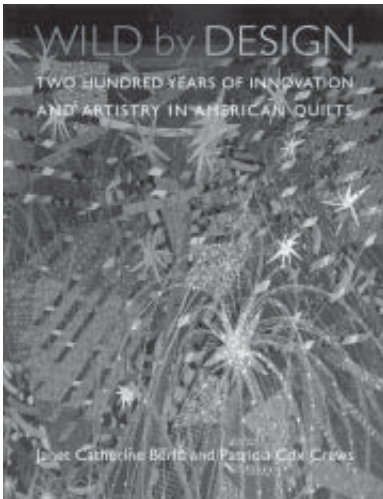
The IQSC Quilt of the Month e-mail newsletter currently has more than 2,000 subscribers.

RESEARCH & EDUCATION

Hot off the Press



The IQSC is a leader in quilt studies, publishing books, scheduling lectures, presenting papers and providing educational programs for numerous organizations. In 2003, IQSC Fellows, Associate Fellows, and graduate students authored the following books and articles:



- *Amish Crib Quilts from the Midwest*. Janneken Smucker, Patricia Crews and Linda Welters (GoodBooks).
- *Wild by Design: Two Hundred Years of Innovation and Artistry in American Quilts*. Janet Berlo and Patricia Crews (University of Washington Press).
- "The Eva Wight Crazy Quilt: Late-Nineteenth-Century Quilting in Central Kansas," Marin Hanson, in *Kansas History: A Journal of the Central Plains*, Vol. 26, no. 2 (Summer 2003), pp. 78-89.
- "Quilt Symposium '77: "Fine Art — Folk Art" at Lincoln, Nebraska," Carolyn Ducey and Mary Ellen Ducey. *2003 Uncoverings: Research Papers of the American Quilt Study Group*, pp. 75-98.
- "Quilts as Manifestations of Cross-Cultural Contact: East-West and Amish-'English' Examples," Marin Hanson and Janneken Smucker, *2003 Uncoverings: Research Papers of the American Quilt Study Group*, pp. 99-129.
- "Quilting," Marin Hanson and Patricia Crews, *Encyclopedia of Clothing and Fashion*.
- "The Reconciliation Quilt: Lucinda Ward Honstain's Pictorial Diary of an American Era," Melissa Jurgena and Patricia Crews, *Folk Art Magazine*, Vol 28, no. 3 (Fall, 2003), pp. 38-47.
- "Pieced in the Plains: Kansas Amish Quilts and Cultural Adaptation," Janneken Smucker, *Great Plains Quarterly*, Vol. 24, no.1 (Winter 2004), pp. 3-15.

Recent Graduates

- Janneken Smucker, MA, May 2003
- Janet Evenson, Ph.D., August 2003
- Deborah Rake, M.A., December 2003
- Nao Nomura, M.A., May 2004
- Beverly Teche, M.A., May 2004

Summer Seminars and Workshops

The IQSC's Summer Institute offers exciting classes each summer that provide opportunities to study with nationally known experts. The classes may be taken for credit towards a master's degree program in textile history and quilt studies, or for personal edification. The IQSC graduate program is the only program of its kind in the world.

2003 Summer Classes

- "Repair and Stabilization" of quilts, a one week workshop taught by Margaret Ordonez, Associate Professor, University of Rhode Island
- "History of Quilts," a Distance Delivery class taught by Patricia Crews, professor, UNL

Upcoming 2004 Summer Classes

- "Quilts in Context" taught by Xenia Cord, visiting instructor, folklorist, collector, dealer.
- "Design Issues and Perspectives," a Distance Delivery class taught by Michael James, professor, UNL
- "Historical Research Methods," a Distance Delivery class taught by Linda Welters, professor, University of Rhode Island



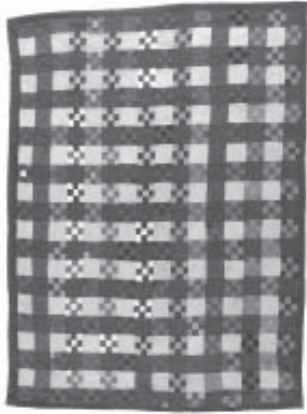
Margaret Ordonez lecturing in the Summer 2003 "Repair and Stabilization" workshop

Research Presented at Professional Meetings

- "The Effects of Light and Ageing on Selected Quilting Products Containing Adhesives." Janet Evenson and Patricia Crews, June 9, 2003, American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting, Textile Specialty Group, Arlington, VA.
- "Quilt Symposium '77: "Fine Art — Folk Art" at Lincoln, Nebraska," Carolyn Ducey and Mary Ellen Ducey, October 11, 2003 American Quilt Study Group Annual Seminar, Dallas, TX.
- "Quilts as Manifestations of Cross-Cultural Contact: East-West and Amish-'English' Examples," Marin Hanson and Janneken Smucker, October 12, 2003, American Quilt Study Group Annual Seminar, Dallas, TX.

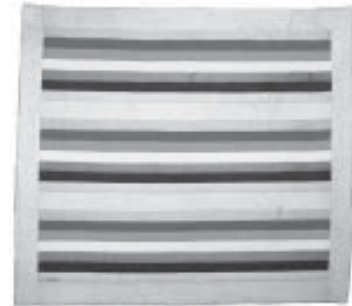
COLLECTIONS

New Acquisitions



A quilt from the new Barber Collection of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Amish quilts

IQSC collections now total more than 1,650 quilts, with several significant collections and pieces acquired during the past year.



Two quilts from the newly-acquired Jonathan Holstein Collection

- The Jonathan Holstein Quilt Collection and the Holstein Collection of Archival Materials. The collection is one of the most historically important collections in existence. It includes a group of 60 quilts shown at the Whitney Museum of American Art in 1971, more than 100 Lancaster County, PA, and Midwestern Amish quilts and approximately 240 pieced and applique quilts from Pennsylvania.
- The Henry and Jill Barber Collection of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania Amish Quilts
- “The Pavement of Happiness,” 1969, and “Crossover,” 2002, by Radka Donnell
- “Four Fields Meet,” 1995, by Dorothy Caldwell, Canada

IQSC Volunteers

Volunteers contributed more than 1,700 hours last year, object surveying, refolding, vacuuming and sewing sleeves on quilts, among myriad other tasks.

Collections Care

IQSC staff completed the Object Survey Project, an effort to collect data on all of the quilts in the collection. Staff, graduate assistants, volunteers, and interns devoted hundreds of hours to examining each IQSC quilt and filling out a data form for each. The data collected was uploaded to the new online database, giving quilt lovers information about each quilt, in addition to an image.

HONORS & GRANTS

Honors

- Dr. Patricia Crews was named a Willa Cather Professor, recognized for her exceptional record of distinguished scholarship and creative activity, May 2003.
- Michael James was awarded a city of Lincoln's Mayor's Arts Award, May 2003.
- Janneken Smucker received the 2003 Graduate Student Research Assistant Award at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 2003.

Grants

- The Nebraska Humanities Council awarded grants to support "At the Crossing: Midwestern Amish Crib Quilts and the Intersection of Cultures," (\$5097); "Indigo Gives America the Blues," (\$2581); and "Modern Marvels: Quilts Made from Kits, 1915-1950," (\$1500).
- The International Quilt Association and Quilter's Newsletter Magazine awarded the IQSC a grant to support research on the long term effects of adhesive-containing products (\$5,000).
- The Lincoln Quilters Guild awarded Marin Hanson a scholarship (\$500) to fund a trip to the United Kingdom last fall for research on mosaic quilts with an international team.
- The American Quilt Study Group awarded Nao Nomura, IQSC graduate intern, a scholarship (\$250) to attend its annual seminar.
- The James Foundation awarded Janneken Smucker a fellowship (\$4457) for study of the Barber Collection of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, quilts.
- The Getty Grant Program awarded the IQSC a three-year grant (\$175,000) to research and prepare the manuscript for the inaugural volume of an eventual four-volume catalogue of the IQSC collections.



Nao Nomura, "Indigo Gives America the Blues" exhibition curator, with Jay Rich, fiber artist, at a grant-funded indigo dyeing workshop led by Mr. Rich

STAFF, FELLOWS & ADVISORY BOARDS

2003 International Advisory Board Members



Jonathan Holstein talks to fellow International Advisory Board members about some of the Amish quilts in the IQSC's new Holstein Collection

Mary Lemman Austin of Colorado
Sara Dillow of Nebraska
Annette Gero of Australia
Bettina Havig of Missouri
Jonathan Holstein of New York
Michael James of Nebraska
Ralph James of Massachusetts
Robert & Ardis James of New York
Gita Khandelwal of India
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Ursula McCracken of Washington, D.C.,
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Olga Prins-Lukowski of the Netherlands
Anne Scott of New Zealand
Tadanobu Seto of Japan
Patricia Steuert of Massachusetts
Maude Wahlman of Missouri
Donna Wilder of Connecticut

IQSC Chancellor's Quilt Advisory Committee

Shelly Burge of Lincoln
Jean Davie of Lincoln
Sara Dillow of Fremont
Mary Ghormley of Lincoln
Elaine Martin of North Platte
Susan Seidel of Omaha
Diann Sorensen of North Platte
Dianne Thomas of Omaha
June Vogltance of Dodge
Chris Wiegers of Beatrice

IQSC Faculty Fellows

Ms. Agnes Adams, Collection Development Librarian & Professor, UNL Libraries
Dr. Barbara Banks, Director/Curator, Lentz Center for Asian Culture
Dr. Peter Bleed, Professor, Anthropology
Ms. Mary Cassner, Associate Professor & Subject Specialist Librarian
Dr. Patricia Crews, Director, IQSC and Professor, Textiles, Clothing & Design
Ms. Jan Driesbach, Director, Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery
Ms. Carolyn Ducey, Curator, IQSC
Ms. Mary Ellen Ducey, Assistant Professor & Special Collections/Archives Librarian
Ms. Marin Hanson, Assistant Curator, IQSC
Mr. Michael James, Professor, Textiles, Clothing & Design
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Dr. Shirley Niemeyer, Extension Specialist, Textiles, Clothing & Design
Dr. Marshall Olds, Professor, Modern Languages & Literature
Mr. Vince Quevedo, Lecturer, Textiles, Clothing & Design
Dr. Joy Ritchie, Director, Women's Studies and Professor of English
Dr. Kari Ronning, Research Associate, Cather Project
Dr. Susan Rosowski, Adele Hall Distinguished Professor of English
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Dr. Alison Stewart, Associate Professor, Art and Art History
Dr. Barbara Trout, Associate Professor, Textiles, Clothing & Design
Dr. Diane Vigna, Extension Specialist, Textiles, Clothing & Design
Ms. Wendy Weiss, Professor, Textiles, Clothing & Design
Dr. Lynn White, Professor, Sociology
Dr. Kenneth Winkle, Professor, History

IQSC Associate Fellows

Dr. Linda Arthur, Professor, Washington State University
Ms. Jacqueline Atkins, Adjunct Associate Professor, New York University
Ms. Lynne Z. Bassett, Independent curator and author, Ware, MA
Dr. Janet Berlo, Professor, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY
Ms. Barbara Brackman, Independent curator, author & scholar, Lawrence, KS
Dr. Robert Cargo, Professor Emeritus, University of Alabama-Tuscaloosa
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Dr. Judy Elsley, Professor, Weber State University, Weber, UT
Ms. Sandi Fox, Independent curator, author and scholar, Los Angeles, CA
Dr. Annette Gero, Associate Professor, University of New South Wales,
Sydney, Australia
Ms. Jennifer Gilbert, Curator, New England Quilt Museum, Lowell, MA
Ms. Jennifer Goldsborough, Museum Curator and Adjunct Professor, Parson's
School of Design and Sotheby's Institute, NY
Dr. Virginia Gunn, Professor, University of Akron, OH
Mr. Jonathan Holstein, Author, independent curator, Cazenovia, NY
Ms. Laurel Horton, Folklorist, independent curator, author, consultant,
Seneca, SC
Ms. Stacy Kamehiro, Assistant Professor, University of California, Santa Cruz
Dr. Marsha MacDowell, Curator of Folk Arts, Michigan State University
Museum and Professor, Michigan State University
Dr. Ronald Naugle, Hoge-Kinne Professor of History, Nebraska Wesleyan
University, Lincoln, NE
Dr. Margaret Ordonez, Associate Professor, University of Rhode Island
Dr. Rachel Pannabecker, Director, Kauffman Museum, Bethel College,
Newton, KS
Dr. Jane Przybysz, Executive Director, San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles,
CA
Mr. Robert Shaw, Executive Director, The Alliance for American Quilts,
Shelburne, VT
Dr. Maude Wahlman, Professor, Dept. of Art and Art History, University of
Missouri - Kansas City
Ms. Merikay Waldvogel, Independent curator, author, lecturer, Knoxville, TN
Ms. Janice Wass, Curator, Illinois State Museum
Dr. Linda Welters, Professor, University of Rhode Island
Ms. Jenny Yearous, Curator of Collections, North Dakota State Historical
Society
Ms. Shelly Zegart, Author, collector, founding director of the Alliance for
American Quilts, Louisville, KY

IQSC Staff

Dr. Patricia Crews, Director

Carolyn Ducey, Curator

Marin Hanson, Assistant Curator

Judy Schwender, 2003-2004 Graduate Curatorial Assistant

Kathy Moore, Symposium Coordinator

Nao Nomura, Summer Curatorial Assistant

Alta Ottoson, Secretary

Jean Davie, Volunteer Coordinator

Judy Hess, Annual Support Program Coordinator