

# The Grand Quilt Guild Challenge of the Month ~ Mar 2023

## **QUILTING WITH NON TRADITIONAL FABRICS**



This is a close up of the detail in Millie's Wall  
Hanging on Pg 4. Can you find it?

Presented by Marg Wiley

# QUILTING WITH NON TRADITIONAL FABRICS

- Originally quilting was a craft created as a way of creating something useful from household linens and cotton scraps.
- Using different fabrics can increase interest, texture, design, and comfort and up cycling and can result in a beautiful. creative quilt or wall hanging, large or small, uniquely yours.
- Traditional patterns can be transformed into a unique creation.

Traditional patterns can take on a whole new look . Think about alternative fabrics such as wool or satins, or linens or use the wrong side of the fabric.

The following slides show examples of quilting work using non-traditional fabric blends:

- Fibre Art and Landscape Quilts, Wall Hangings
  - Crazy Quilts and Rag Quilts
  - Memory Quilts and Tribute Pieces
  - Appliqué Quilts and Wall Hangings
- Fashion Accessories such as bags and jackets from upholster materials
- Household Items such as placemats, hotplates, cushion covers and holiday items, and
  - Bed Quilts

# Fibre Art and Landscape Quilts

Wall Hanging  
Millie Cumming



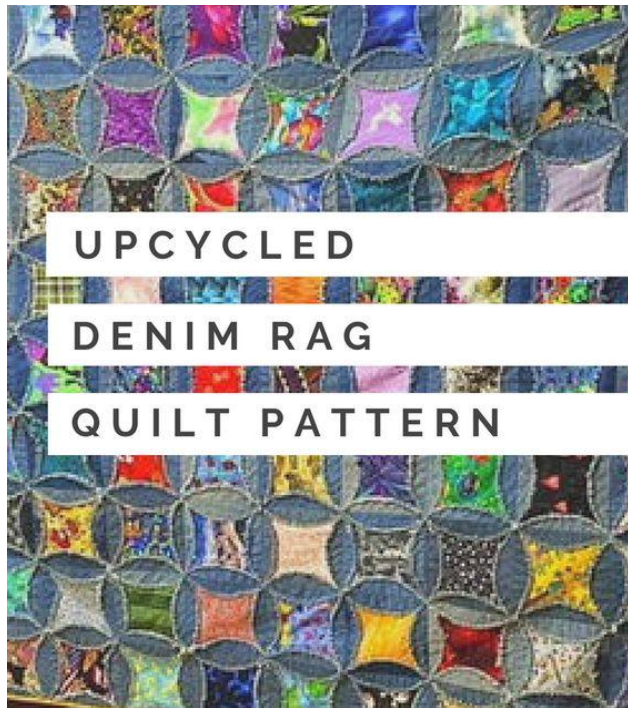
Judy Eckhart  
Vintage Items



Millie Cumming

# Crazy Quilts and Items and Rag Quilts or Wall Hangings

Free Rag Quilts Patterns on  
Pinterest at FaveQuilts.com



Left: Upcycled Denim Rag Quilt  
Below: Quick and Cuddly Rag Quilt



Crazy Quilted Christmas  
Trees by Judy Eckhart

# Memory Quilts and T-Shirt Quilts



Bag Made from Ties from  
MarieZDesigns



T-Shirt Quilt  
Joanne Holt

# Appliqué Quilts



Wool Appliqué Patterns by Rachel Pelman Designs



# Household Items and Upcycle

Upcycled Jeans to Bags and Pillow Covers by Lorrie Taylor



Upcycled Jeans to a Wall Hanging and Close Up of the Pocket Detail by Millie Cumming



# Bed Quilts

- Backings using flannels available in wool or wool blends.
- Infant and Children's quilts using cuddly fabrics e.g. Minky.
- Quilts using up-cycled fabrics such as denim.



Lissa Gareis, Pattern on  
Etsy

# **Fabrics to Think About**

- Wool, wool blends, lightweight denims, cotton twill, canvas, linen, silk, corduroy, brushed cottons, flannels.
- Upcycle fabrics including shirting, ties, used sheets (for backing or flannel for batting).

## **Considerations when using non traditional fabrics**

- The weight of the fabric (with the needle size(sharp enough point and appropriate opening), the machine's ability to sew heavier fabrics if these are selected.
- Use a stabilizer of fusible, light weight interfacing e.g. SF101 for finer fabrics that move or stretch, before cutting or quilting and maybe even tissue paper with the stabilizer when sewing for a finer fabric.

## **Considerations when using non traditional fabrics (cont)**

- Laundering and consideration of pre-shrinking, colour setting, maybe drycleaning,
- Quilting technique, hand (regular stitching, long stitching or tying) or machine quilting depending on preference, the capabilities of your machine, or your whim,
- Embellishment, using a different fabric also gives an opportunity to use fabrics creatively, and
- Challenge yourself to think creatively, to just experiment and have fun with non traditional fabrics.

# Resources

- [www.quiltinghub.com](http://www.quiltinghub.com)
- YouTube Videos including [www.nationalquilterscircle.com](http://www.nationalquilterscircle.com) Heather Thomas
- Suzyquilts.com
- Rachel Pellman Designs (wool applique)
- ZMarie Designs (bags)
- Robruhn.blogspot.com (bags)
- Etsy and Pinterest
- Beginners' Guide to Quilting (Elizabeth Betts) [stitchcraftcreate.co.uk](http://stitchcraftcreate.co.uk)
- Conscious Crafts Quilting (Elli Beaven) Leaping Hare Press
- J. Holt (t-shirt quilt)
- Thanks to Guild Members, Millie Cumming, Judy Eckhardt and Lorrie Taylor (fibre art, denim and crazy quilting)