



Maple Knoll Village

Quilter: **Theresa G Wright**

Title of Quilt: **“Starring William Morris”**

Completed in 2020

Contents: Cotton

There is a bumper sticker I once saw that stated, “She who dies with the most fabric wins!” I really want to win that contest. In recent years my passion has been accumulating fabrics based on the art of William Morris who designed textiles and wallpaper in the 19th century. I first noticed his work in the Victoria and Albert Museum in London where a room is devoted to his art.

When the pandemic kept us all standing in place I couldn’t volunteer at my usual haunts, eat out with friends, cook dinners for company, shop or do any of the many things that often keep me occupied. But I could spend hours in my quilt room. I decided that I would use up some of my William Morris stash and create something big.... something that would not only occupy my time, but make my mind do some work.

So I found a star pattern and decided to build on it. My quilt titled “Starring William Morris” was created in 4 months of the pandemic. It is 94” x 94” and hand quilted with teeny tiny stitches. If the light hits it just right one can see the quilting in the solid blue patches although quilting is in all of the quilt, and just not as apparent in the ornate fabric patterns. My previous quilt of that size took about ten times as much time to finish.

My husband joined in the project sometimes critiquing my fabric choices and occasionally figuring out the intricate math needed for such a quilt. We both breathed a sigh of relief when the quilt was done and fit perfectly in the space for which it was designed. It’s placed across from the metal mobile of an underwater scene he made me some years ago. So when we sit down to dinner we are between the sea and the stars.

A quilt is three layers: a top, a bottom and batting sandwiched in-between. What makes it a quilt is the stitching that attaches all three layers together. The stitches must be close enough together to keep the quilt layers from shifting. Most people are machine quilters and their quilts are often completed quickly. But there are those of us who find hand quilting (sewing the quilt layers with a needle and thread) both relaxing and satisfying. The closer the stitches, the more prized the quilt. It takes longer, but it is calming. We are the dinosaurs of the quilting world.