



1. Ode to Tamar
By Allison Ann Aller
Washougal, Washington

Commercially printed cotton, silks, wire and silk ribbon, woven trim, assorted threads, beads.

This quilt was inspired by a beautiful vintage crazy quilt from the 1880's that was dedicated to the quiltmaker's late daughter, Tamar. My goal was to retain the vintage feel while using more contemporary colors and techniques.

3. Special Occasion: Past and Present
By Mary Marcotte
Evergreen, Louisiana

Cotton, linen, silk, satins, rayon, vintage fabrics and lace. Machine embroidery, lace beading, specialty stitches.

In addition to quilting, I also make christening and wedding gowns. I chose beautiful whites and vintage off-whites to make this small quilt. I hope people see right away that this quilt symbolizes all the special occasions in our lives. The roses symbolize our love at those times, and the cross in the center reminds us that Christ should always be the center of every part of life.



6. Crazy Patch
By Fran Kordek
Elkins, West Virginia

Cotton fabric and batting. Machine pieced, machine embroidery, bead, lace, metallic trim embellishments.

Crazy quilts capture two different motives of quiltmakers – frivolity and frugality!





9. 16 Cowrie Shells
By Marjorie Diggs Freeman
Durham, North Carolina

16 assorted fabrics: pure silk (plain and embroidered), African prints, taffeta, cotton, satin, rayon, cowrie shells, cotton batting. Machine piecing and decorative stitching, hand applique, quilting & stitching.

I chose to emphasize AAQ's 16th anniversary when creating my traditional crazy quilt by putting exactly 16 cowrie shells on it, some real and some on African fabrics. Upon completion of the quilt, I was amazed to find that I had also used 16 different fabrics and 16 different decorative stitches, with hand quilting counting as one. A puzzle and a problem solver, I challenge you to find the 16 in each category!

10. A Modern Romance (Honorable Mention)
By Debra Jo Hardman
Anchorage, Alaska

Starting with an old embroidered blouse, I pieced and quilted this on my long arm machine. I then made a threadplay feather & lace and hand beaded, couched and embellished, painted & just plain had fun!

Quilting is such a personal expression of my creative spirit. Crazy quilting has allowed me to take sentimental objects and incorporate them into pieces of art. I enjoy the challenge of taking an old art form and bringing a modern twist to it.



14. Folly Flash
By Yvonne Porcella
Modesto, California

Fused cottons, machine applique, decorative stitches, buttons, crystals, Dream Green batting, machine quilting

Other terms for Folly include craziness, foolishness, absurdity. When I teach a Self Portrait class to quilting students, I offer drawings of all types of interpretations of a face including a few crazy stitches for inspiration. A crazy background including fancy machine stitches surrounds my crazy face. Embellishments include buttons and crystals as part of the flash!



17. Vintage Snowflake
By Linda Schiffer
Columbia, Maryland

Cotton fabrics, wool batting, cotton and metallic threads, antique lace, hand-tatted snowflake, glass beads and sequins.

Perhaps the one aspect of quilt making I enjoy the most is the opportunity to be creative and original with my designs. I love making crazy quilts because the framework of traditional design is so open-ended. Like writing sonnets, making a crazy quilt block is an exercise in creativity. I enjoy every phase of piecing, machine and hand embroidery, beading and embellishment! The tatted snowflake on my entry was made by a friend - - I enjoyed finding her small “errors” and variations in the work as I beaded the entire motif. I quilted the background in one of the most common prehistoric symbols for the sun because the most dazzling sight I’ve known is the flash of morning sunlight on new-fallen snow.

21. Whoooo's There?
By Christie Eckardt
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emerates

100% cotton quilt fabrics, cording, yarn ribbon, lace, sequins, zipper, buttons.

My name is Christie and I’ve been living in Abu Dhabi, UAE for eight years. This is my first Crazy Quilt and the look of these always reminded me of tree bark, thus the idea for this quilt. The owl is surrounded by a crazy amount of mystery and superstition around the world so I thought it was a perfect match for a crazy quilt.



23. On the Edge of Gold (Honorable Mention)
By Ruth Ann Mundy
Elkton, Illinois

I foundation pieced the quilt. All stitches are made by hand. I also used buttons, beads and lace. The quilt contains three layers - top foundation and backing and all new fabric was used - dupioni, moire, etc.

I do a lot of sane quilts but my love is with embellishing a project. This is my first contest. I’m looking forward to seeing all of the entries. I would like to do more art quilts.





25. Tiled Ties
By Ellen Hernandez
San Antonio, Texas

Mosaic tiling concept from early crazy quilts such as "Tile Quilt" c. 1890 Univ. of Nebraska. Rather than applique pieces onto foundation, I pieced crazy patches of silk & polyester neckties with satin (as the grout). The four 6" blocks are bordered with prairie points. The layers were sparingly tacked using sequins and beads.

Tiled Ties is based on a pattern I made many years ago by randomly slicing up a square into odd shapes. Using this crazy quilt idea and a picture of an 1800's foundation pieced quilt, I used old neckties of silk and polyester with

satin fabric to piece the shapes in a mosaic tile fashion. In the tradition of not quilting this crazy piece, I chose to tack the layers using sequins and beads.

27. Crazy for Pink and Lace
By Mary Vesta Pumphrey
Bella Vista, Arkansas

Cottons from my stash and lace also out of my stash.

I didn't know I had so many pink fabrics until I decided to make this quilt. The lace collection was a surprise also. Most of it belonged to my mother so is at least 30 to 40 years old.



35. Vessels
By Phylis Fitz
Louisville, Kentucky

Various silk, cotton and velvet fabrics, silk & cotton threads, silk leaves, dyed (hand) fabrics & threads. Fabrics pieced by machine, all embroidery done by hand. Vessels cut from soft copper & aluminum metal sheets.

My name is Phylis Fitz and I am a self-taught quilter. Dabbling in textiles and mixed media, I became intrigued by the crazy quilt technique some years ago. This crazy quilted wall hanging was inspired by pieces of soft metal cut from previous projects. The wall hanging is pieced by machine, embroidered entirely by hand



using silk and cotton threads, various yarns and "vessels" cut from metal scraps for the embellishment.



36. Swimming Upstream (Honorable Mention)

By Terry Pottmeyer
Mercer Island, Washington

Machine pieced, fusible applique, hand embroidery, hand beading.

While my support of the Alliance for American Quilts is strong, my interest in crazy quilting is not. Despite my reluctance, I embarked on this project with hope – but it turned out that even after having given it a good effort, I am just not crazy about this form of quilting. For me, the process of making this quilt felt a lot like “Swimming Upstream”.

**38. Your Love Has Got Me Lookin
So Crazy Right Now**
By Chandra Kowalski
Sevierville, Tennessee

Hand piecing, hand quilting, hand applique, machine piecing used in some parts.

Looking up different love songs from the 1800s thru 2009, I found one common theme ‘Love is Crazy’. The love song ‘Crazy’ by Patsy Cline is a classic. Two old loves poems and vintage fabric make this quilt unique. The quilt is dedicated to those we love who make us crazy, and a reminder that Real Love is Timeless – ‘It is what it is’ – just like our quilts!



39. Rover (My Husband Wanted a Dog) (Honorable Mention)

By Dorothy Day
Bella Vista, Arkansas

100% cotton, fused cat, thread and paint embellished.

My manx cat Rover posed for this quilt although he is white with a grey spot on his head and one on his rump. I think he makes a good black cat too. I used scraps from my stable (stash accumulated beyond life expectancy) for the background and the stitches programmed into my old New Home sewing machine for the crazy quilt look. My friend Karen Kielmeyer helped me with the eyes and the thread work on the cat.





41. Bucolic Scene (Honorable Mention)

By Dorothy Ann Thompson
Port Angeles, Washington

Cotton, silk, ultrasuede, buttons, beads, lace, hand embroidery, beading, 3-D leaves, tatting (antique) silk ribbon embroidery.

Leave the stresses of life behind as you step into the world of crazy quilting. Find the joy I do as I sit and stitch. What will it be tonight – minute sheep in a pasture, a bluebird feeding her fledgling, a knot garden made of knots, a bird too fat to leave the next, a city garden behind a locked gate, or a teeny hummingbird? There will always be new discoveries awaiting you.

48. Creative Chaos (1st Place Winner, Ages 30 and Under)

By Kelly Phelps
Nashville, Tennessee

Fabric from Purl Soho NY, binding from Wrights, "Simply Crazy" tool from EZ Quilting

This is actually my first attempt at a quilt. I have always respected and appreciated the quilting arts but have been too afraid to try it myself. The Crazy for Quilts contest is the perfect way to try it out for the first time, seeing as how crazy quilts can be imperfect and still beautiful. Thanks so much!



50. Dragon Crazy (Honorable Mention)

By Karen Bennick
Oceanside, California

Motifs for Crazy Quilting by J. Marsha Michler. Satins, velvets and brocades; couched threads and trims.

This crazy dragon was inspired by the brown satin brocade with the tree and crane (symbol of longevity). The dragon is from the book Motifs for Crazy Quilting by J. Marsha Michler. The materials used have been collected over an 18 year span of quilting. The seam coverings were collected and sewn on during a cruise to ports in Spain, France, Italy, Malta, Casablanca and Gibraltar.





54. Obama Victory Garden (2nd Place Winner, Ages Over 30)
By Michelle Flamer
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Crazy piecing (by machine), hand embroidery, stamping and machine quilting.

When I saw the First Lady, Michelle Obama, prepare a new White House garden, I knew that I had the theme for my crazy quilt. “Obama Victory Garden” celebrates a new presidency and the hope it brings for a more fruitful and peaceful future. I combined scripture and whimsy to communicate my vision of the Obama’s garden. The First Lady and I share a name, hence the initial “M” in the lower corner. The compost pile holds our social issues, while above it, First Dog, Bo, buries a bone in

front of the White House! Like caterpillars metamorphosing into butterflies, I pray that swords and spears will turn into plowshares. No matter the future, God causes the sun to rise on all of us.

59. Bees, Buttons, Butterflies and Beads
By Karen Jordan
Naperville, Illinois

Cotton, tulle fabric, ribbon, lace, metallic, polyester threads, glass beads, buttons, hand & machine embroidery, applique stitch witchery.

I’ve always wanted to make a crazy quilt with the ever growing bag of scraps I have. This was a perfect opportunity to try it. I do believe this is one of the most enjoyable projects I have done. Where else can you work with so many different materials and end up with something that is cohesive and beautiful in a quilt crazy isn’t it?



61. Precious in His Sight
By Georjana Mauldin
Norman, Oklahoma

Machine pieced, machine quilted, embellishments, hand sewn, batik scrap fabrics, fused embellishments, trim & yarn fibers, buttons of all kinds, commercial embroideries.

Scraps from my father’s Christmas quilt were used in this project. Some thought his quilt was too bright for a man. Mother responded, “Well he won’t know what color it is. He is colorblind. He’ll see it as all shades of grey.” If we saw people in “all shades of grey” – maybe this would end prejudice. Maybe being color blind is a blessing. We are precious in His sight – red and yellow, black and white.



64. Madonna & Child
By Sylvia Weir
Beaumont, Texas

Crazy quilt cotton, applique, couched threads.

Despite differences in cultures and eras and nations and societal classes, the relationship between a mother and her child is universal.

67. Rose Song
By Betty Pillsbury
Middleburgh, New York

Silk dupioni, silk satin, moire, cotton, batik, rayon silk ribbon, embroidery, photo transfer, beadwork, fabric manipulation.

Crazy quilts are a passion of mine. I photo transferred a Waterhouse painting and made her clothing dimensional. I then added the embroidery and embellishments. As the woman in the quilt is doing, I think we all need to stop and smell the roses and listen to the rose song.



69. I Prefer a Featherweight, Don't You?
By Peggy Schroder
Sweet Home, Oregon

A play on Yvonne Porcella's quilt "I Have a Bernina, Do You?" 100% cotton, machine quilted, crazy pieced background, beaded eyes.

The fabric on the back of my quilt was my inspiration. The crazy background is my interpretation of a modern crazy quilt with the colors as vivid as the parrots, if not more so.





80. You Call It Madness But I Call It Love
By Jeri Pollock
Mundelein, Illinois

Commercial and artist-dyed fabric, antique buttons, sequins, beads, variety of fibers. Machine pieced, hand embellished.

This is my updated version of crazy quilting. The title is from a song my father loved to sing. Many people think this type of work is madness due to the time required. For me it is a work or love – not to mention a chance to play with all these beautiful things!

82. I'm Crazy for Quilts!
By Jodie Davis
Canton, Georgia

Printed from my designs in Corel draw and EQ. Printed on fabric, machine satin-stitched fused appliques, hand couching, free motion quilting.

Inspiration came easily. The image of quilts in my head swirling around all calling “Make me!” came right to mind. My head is a sea of never ending quilts all vying to become reality. I printed the images of quilts I have made or have designed from Corel Draw and Electric Quilt onto printable fabric and fused them – and me – and appliquéd by machine. Couching swirls and free motion quilting set the quilts to swirling.



84. Button Crazy
By Linda Pumphrey
Fairfield, Ohio

I wanted to enter a quilt totally out of my normal traditional style. The base of this quilt is a demo quilt from the Flynn Frame Company and then I went button and vintage rick-rack crazy.

I always thought it would be fun to take one of the quilts and embellish it. The Crazy Quilt contest was my opportunity to put this thought into action. I was also inspired by quilt artist Frances Holliday Alford button quilts. So Button Crazy is a result of an idea and being influenced by other works of art.





85. Velvet Makes Me Crazy
By Meg Cox
Princeton, New Jersey

Cotton, velvet, silk, lace, ribbon, beads, buttons, wooden alphabet squares. Hand pieced and embroidered.

This is my first crazy quilt, and I almost threw it in the trash a few times. Never sewed with velvet before and it gave me fits. This would not have been possible without the wonderful "squishy" pack supplied by accomplished crazy quilter Allison Aller, which included all the silk in the piece, plus the lace, beads and most of the embroidery thread. You are my inspiration, Allie, and you made me want to try this again. Isn't that part of the fun of contests: trying something new?