

The Grand National Quilt Show, *Connections* Curator's Award

sponsored by
Waterloo County Quilters' Guild

Mary Mack

Margaret Notar, Waterloo, Ontario, 2014

Commercial cottons, satin, organza, netting, water-soluble stabilizer, tartan ribbon, yarn, beads, wire and a bell. Fuse appliquéd, free-motion and machine stitched, hand-appliquéd, machine embroidered and printing on fabric. 14" x 16"

Inspiration: Scottish folk ballad

Mary Mack was the Scottish folk ballad my family learned from Gaelic singer, Raymond, one drizzly

August evening in a remote pub somewhere in the northern Highlands of Scotland...

This folk song is typically sung with increasingly rapid tempo which makes you trip over your words as you near the end (or was that the whiskey?) The church prototype was adapted from the Main Street United Church in Antigonish, Nova Scotia (where one son attends university.) I've integrated a few stanzas of Mary Mack into the roof lines of this little quilt. Read them aloud first, then try again, quickly.



*White framed windows looking out to the sea
Halifax, St. John, St. Andrews makes three.
Pastel coloured houses are colouring book sweet
On the Charlottetown, Cape Breton, Antigonish Street.*

*X is symbolic but it's not to mark the spot;
It's a ring and education where my money's gone – a lot!
Red sands, high tides: some views that are most prime.
Had to capture them all in this Maritime rhyme.*

Ode to the Maritimes

Margaret Notar, Waterloo, Ontario, 2014

Hand-painted and commercial cottons, metallic and embroidery threads, beads, buttons. Machine, free-motion and hand-stitched, machine and hand-embroidered. 57" x 18"

After many trips east to take in scenery, buskers, scenery, inlaws, scenery, and a university campus, this poem (left) is what I have to say.