



verbal arts centre

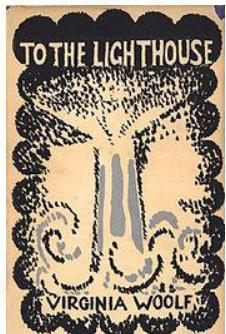
It is with great pleasure that I have invited Marlene Milner to exhibit her work which relates to Virginia Woolf's literary work as absorbed and then expressed in textile form. Virginia Woolf already made herself the connection between written words and textiles when saying: ***Hence I keep my phrases hung like clothes in a cupboard, waiting for someone to wear them.*** (Virginia Woolf: *The Waves* (1937). Grafton 1977)

In connection to this work on exhibition, Marlene herself has said:

"TO THE LIGHTHOUSE an interpretation in stitch

To the Lighthouse by Virginia Woolf is my favourite book written by my favourite author and I had no hesitation in choosing it for my self expression pieces for the City and Guilds Level 4 textile course.

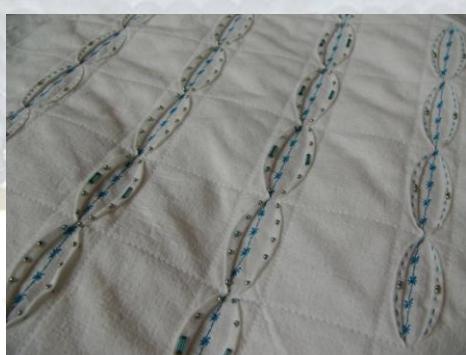
I have named my two wall hangings after the title and the first chapter of the book - 'To the Lighthouse' and 'The Window'. The three panels, made for a screen, and the ottoman cover use techniques and embellishments including, trapunto, appliqué, printing on calico, many folded techniques, hand quilting, applying buttons, beads and ribbons, that I think represent the sea and family holidays spent on the coast.



I love using calico in my work - in its natural form it is a deep cream colour and rough to the touch but once it has been boil washed it is the most beautiful, hard wearing, soft to feel, material you can work with. Quilts are normally functional, being things of warmth they are placed on beds; I have used mine as decorations. Quilting is a creative art and very personal, it is also very therapeutic and is an activity that is ordered and creative with a goal of making something pleasing to the eye. During the making of my pieces I could imagine seeing the light casting shadows in the room and hearing the sea crashing round the rocks and Mrs. Ramsay promising her son a trip to the lighthouse. I would recommend to everyone to have a go and see what enjoyment you can achieve." www.marlenemilner@yahoo.co.uk

This exhibit will be on display from Friday 9th September until 10th December 2011. It is part of a continuous series of arpillerias and quilt exhibitions in the Verbal Arts Centre curated by Roberta Bacic, which started on the 8th March 2008 and led up to International Women's Day 2009 and beyond.

<http://cain.ulst.ac.uk/quilts/exhibit/vacquilts.html>



Photos by Rory McCarron

1st edition cover