

## About the Speaker

Betsy Bauman is a teacher and artist whose love of fabric, drama and history led her to the theatre and a career as a costume designer. She brings her knowledge of fashion history and sewing construction together with her sense of color, line, and shape to help the actors tell a story that will express something universal about what it means to be human. These are the same things that draw her to working as a quilt artist.

"I am inspired by the history and tradition of quilting, and I collect antique quilts to study and to enjoy. This respect for the past is the springboard for the quilts I make. Although I use the same basic structure as quilters from the past, I am not trying to decorate a bed or provide warmth, but rather I seek to tell a story or express an idea. My quilts are playful and whimsical, and I think viewers will see my theatrical background in them, as well."

Betsy began making quilts in 2000, and since then her quilts have been juried into national exhibitions such as the American Quilter's Society shows at Paducah, Lancaster, and Grand Rapids, Quilt Odyssey in Hershey, PA, as well as shows in Vermont and Indiana, and locally at Lake Farm Park, the Rocky River Reflections of Nature Shows, and Mutton Hill in Akron. She also lectures on Quilt History and other quilt-related topics.

Bauman serves as Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Theatre Arts at Hiram College, where she has been teaching since 1998. She holds an M.F.A. in Design from Kent State University, an M.A. in Theatre from The University of Akron, and a B.A. in Theatre from SUNY Brockport.

## Trunk Show

For this presentation, I bring my quilts and talk about where my design ideas came from, and how I approached construction techniques for each of them. My work ranges from traditional patterns with a twist, to whimsical themes, to innovative art quilts. No media is required—this is just a casual, extemporaneous talk, with plenty of time for questions.

Some feedback from listeners:

"Thank you for sharing your life and quilts with us. You have made some really stunning and artistic quilts. I hope that you will come back next year to do programs for our Guild."

## Elizabeth Bauman

### Quilt Artist and Speaker



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## **“Stories in Fabric”**

“Stories in Fabric” is a performance presentation, illustrated with plentiful pictures in a power point. It features stories from quilters past and present, taken from diaries and other sources. It includes quotes such as "Patchwork! Ah, no! It was memory, imagination, history, biography, joy, sorrow, philosophy, religion, romance, realism, life love and death..." "My whole life is in that quilt... I tremble sometimes when I remember what that quilt knows about me."

I speak about how women want to be remembered, the need to create beauty, and the stories quilters past and present put in their quilts. So I guess it's about...love! The love of quilting and why we do it.

Some feedback from a listener: "I really enjoyed that well-rehearsed, -structured, and -presented performance! I laughed and laughed, and I still can get an emotional tug when I think about various sections. That comes from your theatrical training!"

## **“Why Do People Make Art?”**

Part Art History, part Contemporary Quilt Art, this Power Point lecture illustrates the many reasons artists throughout history have created art: to explore beauty in nature or communicate ideas; to tell a story or to seek social change; to evoke emotion or to reinforce cultural ties, and many more.

We'll look at paintings by Andy Warhol, Picasso, Mondrian, Norman Rockwell, and others. We'll look at quilt art by artists such as Susan Shie, Luke Haynes, Nancy Crow, Hollis Chatelaine, and many more. As we explore examples of art throughout history, you will be asked to consider "What was the artist trying to do here? Do quilt artists share the same goals?"

## **“Threads of Time: Looking at History Through our Quilts”**

This Power Point and Lecture is a sort of "Detective" show about looking for clues in the fabrics and styles of antique quilts to better understand them and to try and date them. It teaches listeners about when certain fabrics were available, when certain styles and patterns were popular, and what we can learn about the lives of the women who made the quilts. It's based on the Barbara Brackman book, "Clues in the Calico," and I bring my own antique quilt collection to share after the talk. When I did it for the Hiram Historical Society, members also brought antique quilts to show and share.

Some feedback from a listener:

“Betsy gave an excellent talk, showing us how to identify the era of a quilt by colors, fabrics, and techniques. Then came a second treat when she brought out quilts to share. Betsy Bauman presented an outstanding program that those present will all remember.”

## **“Why Quilters Are Smart”**

This is a fun and entertaining Power Point Lecture celebrating the wisdom we quilters have in our choice of hobby (or perhaps our obsession!) We all know that quilting is good—and good for us! But just in case you need a little more justification for your addiction—or you want some superior answers to those who wonder why you spend so much time and money on this quilting thing.... I bring experts to testify as to why exactly our hobby is excellent for our mental health, physical health and emotional health.

The talk also includes little quizzes for the audience to participate in. I picture it being just right for a meeting where we are having a party--maybe Christmas or Valentine's Day.

## **NEW! “The History of Women’s Fashion”**

From the Classical World to the Contemporary: 4000 BC to 2020. Costume Designer Betsy Bauman will take you through the history of women's fashion from the Egyptians through today with research, fun facts, wedding gowns and illustrations of how each era has been depicted in movies and television series. Grace Kelly, Marilyn Monroe, Princess Diana, *My Fair Lady*, *Bridgerton*, *Downton Abbey*, and more!

## **NEW! “Quilting for Social Justice”**

Throughout history, American women who had no other voice in society used the art of quilting to make their opinions known about suffrage, abolition, temperance, women's rights, the state of the union and more. Into the 20<sup>th</sup> century the quilt continued to shout out for various causes such as AIDS awareness, the women's liberation movement and the civil rights movement. In this power point lecture Betsy shares how quilts have been used in the past—and continue to speak out today about issues we still face, such as the Black Lives Matter movement, LGBTQ rights, addiction, domestic terrorism, women's abuse, world hunger, environmental issues and many more.

\*\*\*Each talk is about 45 minutes long. Lecture Fee: \$200.00