

## A YEAR OF PROGRESS, PLANNING & EXCITEMENT

June 1, 2006

Dear Supporters,

This has been an incredibly exciting and busy year for the International Quilt Study Center. During this critical transitional year for the Center, the staff and I conferred with architects to finalize construction documents for the striking new home for the Center and marked the beginning of construction with a groundbreaking ceremony. We also developed an exhibition schedule for the next five years, refined plans for the opening exhibitions and companion publications, and continued to welcome visitors from near and far.



Since our program's beginnings, the support of the College of Education and Human Sciences and the Department of Textiles, Clothing and Design has been critical to our success. During this last year, Dean Marjorie Kostelnik and Department Chair Michael James have continued that tradition; we are grateful for the advice and perspective they contribute to our growth. In addition, we are aided by numerous departments and individuals throughout the University and look forward to these ongoing partnerships.

We are encouraged by the outpouring of enthusiasm from supporters around the world for construction of the Center's new home. I am excited to report that to date more than 66 percent of the \$12 million building campaign goal has been raised by the University of Nebraska Foundation. Meaningful opportunities remain to support the project at any level, and I thank you for your continued involvement as we realize our ambitious plans for the future.

Sincerely,



Patricia Crews  
Willa Cather Professor of Textiles & Director

### Building Our New Home

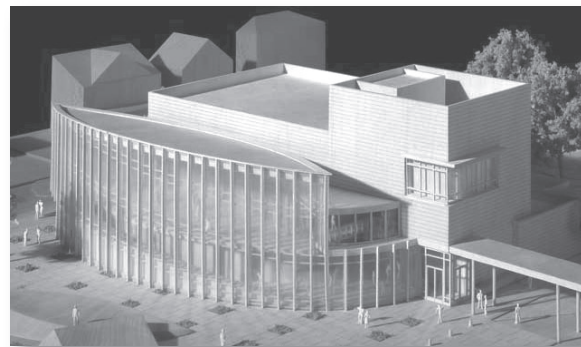
The embodiment of a far-sighted vision is about to become reality: only one short year after announcement of the building architect and the launch of a major capital campaign, the new home for the International Quilt Study Center is under construction. University of Nebraska-Lincoln officials, Lincoln Mayor Coleen Seng and more than 150 well-wishers celebrated the official groundbreaking for the new International Quilt Study Center building on May 12.

The festivities included the ceremonial turning of earth and a special quilting tradition. Attendees autographed signature quilt blocks which will remain in the Center's archives. A special surprise underscored the University's commitment to neighborhood connections: Quilt Center volunteers presented the captain and crew of next door neighbor Fire Station #2 with a specially designed quilted wall hanging.

"The new quilt study center has the potential to become a nationally-known destination not only for quilt enthusiasts, but also for historians and students of textile sciences," said UNL Chancellor Harvey Perlman. "This will be a significant resource for our students and faculty as well as the immediate community, the state and the nation."

The 37,000-square-foot building, under construction at North 33rd and Holdrege streets, is scheduled to open to the public in early 2008. The Quilt Center will house three exhibition galleries, and state-of-the-art textiles storage and quilt preservation facilities.

*-Continued on page 2-*



## COLLECTIONS

### New Acquisitions

The International Quilt Study Center's acquisitions committee approved the addition of more than 200 new quilts last year with support of private acquisition funds. Hundreds of quilts were located, researched and examined as possible additions in these priority areas – early American, international traditional, and domestic and international contemporary art quilts.

Highlights from new acquisitions include:

- Kathryn Berenson Collection of French Quilts and Textiles, a rare and unusual group of 18th- and 19th-century white-work, silk, and printed cotton quilts;
- A group of *rallis* or quilts made in the Thar Desert region located on the border of Pakistan and India, and
- Two Log Cabin quilts from Norway.

In addition, contemporary art quilts from British artists Pauline Burbidge, Deirdre Amsden, Lynn Settrington and Mary Fogg were acquired, as were quilts of American artists Jan Myers-Newbury, Emily Richardson, Chris Wolf Edmonds, Ruth B. McDowell and Barbara Watler.



Ralli Quilt, made in India or Pakistan, c. 1970-1990. IQSC 2005.033.0017



Barbara Watler, "Fingerprint Series: #8 Centering In," 1999, Hollywood, FL. IQSC 2005.030.0003

### Collections Care

Due to the growth of the collections, new shelving units were installed to expand storage capacity in the Center's storage facility. Additional archival boxes and tissue were also purchased to properly store and care for the collection.

With the help of our dedicated volunteers, we completed object surveys for over 150 quilts. Information on individual quilts retrieved from the object surveys will be available on our searchable database to the general public.

Nearly 100 quilts were on view at local, national and international exhibitions. Thanks to our volunteers, as the quilts returned from exhibitions they were carefully vacuumed using low-suction vacuums to remove dust from the surface of the quilts that may have accumulated during the course of exhibitions.

The total number of volunteer hours accumulated during 2005-2006: 1275. We could not take care of the collections as well as we do without our dedicated corps of volunteers!

### Building, *continued from page 1*

Funding for the \$12 million building is being raised solely from private donations by the University of Nebraska Foundation, including a lead gift from the Robert and Ardis James Foundation. "This is yet another example of what can be done when private resources are combined to take the university to new levels of quality," said University of Nebraska Foundation CEO Terry Fairfield. "We are extremely thankful to Bob and Ardis James and the many other donors for their support and vision, which is making this center and program a reality."

Greg Jensen, Senior Director of Development for the NU Foundation, has worked directly with individuals around the world, as well as numerous quilting guilds, which have pledged support to the building fund. There will be several naming opportunities within the new building. To learn more about these and other ways to join our list of supporters, contact:

Greg Jensen

University of Nebraska Foundation

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402-472-0423

Email (*before 7/1/06*): [gjensen@foundation.nebraska.edu](mailto:gjensen@foundation.nebraska.edu), (*after 7/1/06*): [gjensen@nufoundation.org](mailto:gjensen@nufoundation.org)

## ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006

### PUBLIC PROGRAMMING

#### Lectures and Public Programs

- “Patriotic Quilts” lecture by Julie Powell, collector and dealer of patriotic quilts and textiles, Lincoln, NE, August 29, 2005.
- “Amish Quilts and Quiltmakers,” Invited lecture by Patricia Crews held in conjunction with exhibition of Amish Quilts from the International Quilt Study Center’s Collections at Sookmyung Women’s University, Seoul, Korea, October 14, 2005.
- Third Annual Quilt Identification Day, Lincoln, NE, July 16, 2005. Quilt ID Day 2005 had 20 participants who brought a total of 34 quilts for identification.
- “Nebraska Quilts and Quiltmakers,” lecture by Patricia Crews, February 16, 2006, as part of the Nebraska State Historical Society luncheon seminar series. Broadcast almost daily over local public access channel during February and March.
- “The Underground Railroad Quilt Controversy: Looking for the ‘Truth’” public lecture by Laurel Horton, IQSC 2005-2006 Visiting Scholar, March 22, 2006.



Quilt I.D. Day,  
July 16, 2005

#### 2007 Symposium Planning

The International Quilt Study Center’s third biennial symposium (March 1-3, 2007) will explore the full breadth of contexts, both formal and informal, in which the quiltmaker’s art is learned, studied, applied and handed on. This will include but is not limited to: historical to contemporary, local to global, mainstream to alternative, self-taught to apprentice, church group to cooperative, workshop to academic coursework. How quiltmakers teach and learn from quilts, how the tactile resonance of quilts influences the education of the women and men who work with them, how new technologies impose changes in quilt and textile craft education—these and other topic areas will form the core of “Traditions and Trajectories: Education and the Quiltmaker.”



#### Exhibitions

Public exhibitions of the Center’s quilts are in high demand. The very limited exhibition space at the current Quilt Center facility necessitates use of other local, national and international venues to show quilts from the growing collection. During the last twelve months visitors attended the following exhibitions:

- *Patchwork Lives*, hosted by the Museum of Nebraska History. Exhibition curators: Carolyn Ducey and Stephanie Higgins.
- *The Collector’s Eye: Amish Quilts from the International Quilt Study Center Collections*, hosted by Sookmyung Women’s Univ., and Chojun Textile and Quilt Art Museum, Seoul, South Korea. Exhibition curators: Carolyn Ducey, Michael James, and Jonathan Holstein.
- *Wild by Design: 200 Years of Innovation and Artistry in American Quilts*, hosted by the Museum of Nebraska Art, Kearney. Exhibition curators: Janet Berlo, Patricia Crews, and Carolyn Ducey.
- *Perfecting the Past: Colonial Revival Quilts*, hosted by the Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery, UNL. Exhibition curator: Melissa Slaton.

In addition, the Center has loaned individual quilts to galleries around the country. The Delaware History Center (Wilmington, Delaware), Racine Art Museum (Racine, Wisconsin), and Loves Jazz and Arts Center (Omaha, NE) have all borrowed quilts to augment their exhibitions.

See back cover for the schedule of current and upcoming exhibitions.

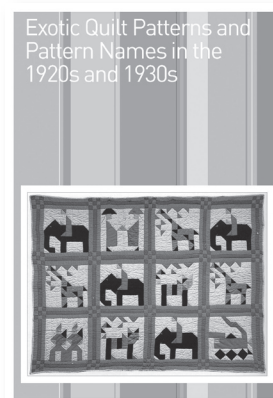


## RESEARCH AND EDUCATION

### Quilt Studies Graduates

- Kathleen Moore, M.A., August 2005
- April Paschall, M.A., May 2006
- Judy Schwender, M.A., May 2006
- Melissa Jurgena, PhD., May 2006

### Publications



- Marin Hanson, "Exotic Quilt Patterns and Pattern Names in the 1920s and 1930s," *Textile: The Journal of Cloth and Culture*, Vol. 4., No. 2 (Summer 2006), pp. 138-163.

- Erika Takamura, Kunio Yoshizumi, and Patricia Crews, "Photoyellowing and Photo-Bleaching of Silk and Wool Fabrics under Monochromatic and MultiChromatic Light Radiation," *American Institute for Conservation, Textile Specialty Group Postprints*, Vol. 15 (2005), pp. 75-82.

- Carolyn Ducey, "Important Textile Collections: The International Quilt Study Center," *Surface Design*, Vol. 30, No. 2 (Winter 2006), pp. 46-47.

- Helen Ewer, "Four Block Quilts," *Blanket Statements*, Newsletter of the American Quilt Study Group, Fall 2005, pp. 8-9.



### Presentations at National Meetings

- "Gilded Age Quilts: Products of America's Ambivalence towards Modernization," Marin Hanson, Juried paper presented at the Salve Regina University Annual Conference on Cultural and Historic Preservation, Newport, RI, September, 2005.

- "Photoyellowing and Photo-Bleaching of Silk and Wool Fabrics under Monochromatic and MultiChromatic Light Radiation," Erika Takamura, Kunio Yoshizumi and Patricia Cox Crews, American Institute for Conservation Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, June 12, 2005,

- "University Collections and Faculty Accountability," Patricia Crews, Special Panel Presentation, International Textile and Apparel Association Annual Meeting, November 4, 2006.

- "Quilt Studies after Gee's Bend," Patricia Crews, Invited Panelist with Laurel Thatcher Ulrich of Harvard, and Elsa Barkley of University of Maryland. Held at Auburn University, Auburn, AL, in conjunction with "Quilts of Gees Bend" exhibition, December 1, 2005.

- "How Science and History Fueled An Academic Career," Patricia Cox Crews, Distinguished Scholar Invited Presentation at Annual Meeting of the International Textile and Apparel Association, Washington, DC, November 3, 2005.

### Assistants and Interns



Melissa Slaton, the Center's curatorial graduate assistant, completed the final year of her assistantship, curating the exhibition "Perfecting the Past: Colonial Revival Quilts" as her culminating Master's project.

### Summer Seminars and Workshops

#### 2005 Summer Seminar

- "A Century of Quilts in Women's Lives," taught by Virginia Gunn, Professor, University of Akron.

#### Upcoming 2006 Summer Workshop

- "Investigating and Interpreting the Past: The Study of Material Culture," June 19-23, Patricia Crews and Susan Wunder, Professors, University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Elizabeth Stetson, the Center's UCARE (Undergraduate Creative and Research Experiences) student, completed her two-year appointment by presenting information at a poster session on the work she did to help prepare for the upcoming exhibition, "Reading, Writing, and a Rhythmic Stitch."

Master's students Kim Madsen and Christina Brooks completed Spring internships at the Center assisting with various research assignments related to the Getty Catalogue Project (see p. 5).

## HONORS AND GRANTS

### Honors

- Patricia Crews, Named 2006 Distinguished Scholar of the International Textile and Apparel Association.
- Patricia Crews, Named Centennial Laureate by Florida State University Alumni Association, Out of an alumni base of 12,000, FSU selected only 200 to receive this honor.
- Jonathan Gregory, Recipient of the Barbara L. Kuhlman Foundation scholarship awarded to full time students in fiber arts programs with a minimum 3.0 GPA.
- Janet Price, Recipient of 2006 Lincoln Quilters Guild Scholarship Award to support travel for oral interviews of Grace Snyder's daughters.
- Nao Nomura, Recipient of 2006 Lincoln Quilters Guild Scholarship Award to support American Quilt Study Group seminar registration. Nao and Janneken Smucker will present a co-authored paper, "From Fibers to Field Work: a Multifaceted Approach to Re-examining Amish Quilts."

### Grants

- Nebraska Humanities Council awarded \$2350 in support of the exhibition "Perfecting the Past: Colonial Revival Quilts."
- Nebraska Arts Council awarded \$650 Special Opportunity Support grant for professional development (supported Maureen Ose's attendance at the American Association of Museums annual meeting in Boston).

### Getty Grant Program Project Update

In 2004, the Getty Foundation's Grant Program awarded the International Quilt Study Center a three-year grant (\$175,000) to research and prepare the manuscript for the inaugural volume of an eventual four-volume catalogue of the IQSC collections. This volume, tentatively titled "American Quilts in the Modern Age: 1870-1940," will be co-edited by Marin Hanson, Curator of Exhibitions, and Patricia Crews, Director.

In this second year of the grant, we made significant progress towards the project's completion. We wrapped up data collection on the 550 quilts that will be included in the volume. In addition, we finalized the genealogical research that was begun last year on the known makers represented in the volume. Finally, more than two-thirds of the essays and catalogue entries for the manuscript have been completed and are awaiting editing, which begins this summer.



### Online Database

The online quilt database at <[www.quiltstudy.org/search](http://www.quiltstudy.org/search)> remains the most popular page on the Quilt Center's website. In 2005, the page received a total of 124,374 hits. In Spring 2006, the database was updated to include most of the more than 200 quilts acquired in 2005.

Many visitors to the website register to receive the electronic Quilt of the Month. There are currently 2540 QOM subscribers.



*Nao Nomura, Collections Manager, and Laurel Horton, 2005-2006 Visiting Faculty Fellow*

## Fellows, Advisory Boards and Staff

### IQSC Faculty Fellows

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 Marin Hanson, Curator of Exhibitions  
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 Maureen Ose, Communications Coordinator  
 Kathy Moore, Symposium Coordinator  
 Melissa Slaton, 2004-2005 Graduate Curatorial Assistant  
 Rosanne Samuelson and Sharon Reeder, Support Staff  
 Jean Davie, Volunteer Coordinator

## *ANNUAL REPORT 2005-2006*

### International Quilt Study Center Annual Supporters – June 2005 – June 2006

Gifts to the Annual Support Fund provide much needed support for the operational collections care activities of the International Quilt Study Center and are greatly appreciated. Other donors not recognized within this report include those who have provided important support for the capital campaign fund and endowment fund managed by the University of Nebraska Foundation.

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## Exhibitions

In Lincoln, NE:  
*Perfecting the Past: Colonial Revival Quilts*  
Robert Hillestad Textiles Gallery, UNL  
May 30 - September 1, 2006  
*Reading, Writing and a Rhythmic Stitch*  
Great Plains Art Museum, UNL  
October 6, 2006 - March 28, 2007  
In Omaha, NE:  
*African American Quilts from the Cargo Collection*  
Loves Jazz and Arts Center  
June 16, 2006 - August 25, 2006  
In Kearney, NE:  
*Wild by Design*  
Museum of Nebraska Art, Univ. of Nebraska-Kearney  
April 8 - July 30, 2006  
In Grinnell, IA:  
*Indigo Gives America the Blues*  
Faulconer Art Gallery, Grinnell College  
July 21 - September 17, 2006



Ground Broken for the New Home of  
the International Quilt Study Center  
-See page 1 for story-

LOOKING AHEAD . . .