

GUATEMALA & COLORS WITHIN





QUIQUE LEE

“One of the recurrent topics in my pieces is memory, and how an individual remembrance relates to a collective subconsciousness. I express myself through textiles and embroidery.”

**Exhibition Proposal
Sitio-sena/ sign site
Quique Lee, Andrea Monroy**

This project is inspired by the migratory journeys of Guatemalans who have left to go north. Some in search of better opportunities, others fleeing persecution. The flow of bodies south-north is recurring throughout history, and is evidenced in during the civil war in the United States. In this case, migrants used secret underground railroads, in whcih they communicated using a quilt code. Symbols that were sewn together and were left for migrants to see.

QUIQUE ON MEMORY

- “My war-related works might seem superficial, but they reflect another point of view, sometimes forgotten, of what I see as a collective memory. I grew up to be an adult and found out there was a war around me, which was denied to me in news, school, or casual conversations.”



International Beginnings

Guatemalan Indigenous
Designs Command
Respect !

YOUNG DESIGNERS - PRESS

- Guatemala's indigenous had long used textiles to tell stories and share their visions of the universe. Now they are a must buy for fashion aficionados. - Haute couture fixture (2013)
- International markets/Dubai
- Use of textile in all forms of fashion, casual and Soiree
- <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/guatemalan-indigenous-designs-win-new-respect> (AP)



GUATEMALA INDIGENOUS DESIGNS: ETHNIC FASHION TO HAUTE COUTURE

-Associated Press -The Latin America & Caribbean Press (2014)

-The fabrics come in dazzling colors, interwoven in bands and geometric patterns, often worn as tunics or dresses. In Guatemala's design houses, that's translated into pumps, ties and purses that stand out from the usual sober colors displayed in high-end stores.



<http://mail.lactrade.com/content/guatemala-indigenous-designs-ethnic-fashion-haute-couture>

WEAVING, WOMEN, AND JUSTICE IN GUATEMALA

- In Guatemala's Supreme Court, closing arguments are being delivered in the trial of former head of state, Efraín Ríos Montt on the accusations of genocide and crimes against humanity. This landmark case has taken years of patience and the steady call for justice from the affected indigenous communities of Guatemala. The art of Mayan weaving demonstrates a resilience of character that has enabled the women of Guatemala to endure generations of political violence and oppression.

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KIVA FELLOWS

- “I am personally convinced that this persistent strength has placed Guatemala at this “tipping point for justice” as coined by Pamela Yates, director of the award-winning Guatemalan Civil War documentaries, “When the Mountains Tremble” and “Granito: How to nail a dictator.”
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYHisPnLXtQ> (clip)
- <http://blog.kiva.org/fellowsblog/2013/05/09/weaving-women-and-justice-in-guatemala>



FASHION DESIGNERS WITHOUT BORDERS

MERCADO GLOBAL

- <http://vimeo.com/17783719> (clip)
- To establish design industry professionals to share their experiences with the indigenous Mayan women Mercado Global partners with and learn how brand partnerships have transformed and impacted artisans' families and their communities.

Way Forward !!!

Thanks