

## My 1718 Coverlet: by Karin Huysamer

As I was working on my assignments for my SAQG Teachers Accreditation one of the assignments was collecting information about this Coverlet. The more I read the more I was intrigued.

So I asked a few friends if they would be interested in forming a group where we would work on the quilt to complete it by 2018 as that was the 300 years anniversary of the Coverlet.

So we started in 2017 and I managed to complete mine just in the nick of time! I used mainly cotton fabrics that were mainly William Morris prints. I've been collecting for years and since this project was also English/British I thought it a good choice! I didn't really match colours to the original... I used what I had, pieces that were big enough. I included my initials KH and the date 2018 in a block in the quilt.

The original maker of the quilt is not known, only her initials EH with 1718 appear on the quilt, BUT she was a master at sewing very small pieces of fabric perfectly together. Her joins and seams were truly amazing! She also designed every single block in the coverlet as the papers that she drew on are still inside and one can see how she changed some lines until she was satisfied!

As the original coverlet is very fragile, a replica was made in the original colours and fibres. The quilt historians could determine the original colours as all the fabrics are folded over papers and only the top fabrics are faded but the inside seams were still the original colour. The original was also made mainly out of silk fabrics.

Last year at the Festival of Quilts in Birmingham there was an exhibition dedicated to the 1718 Coverlet! The original plus the replica as well as quilters from around the world works were there for all to admire!



Karin at the Good Hope Guild meeting showing her quilt



Zelda Nolte made a section of the coverlet

Karin' s quilt below



1718 Coverlet replica made by Karin Huysamer of Cape Town South Africa finished in 2018