

Sew many choices

September 28 - October 4, 2000 • BW 27

Second Annual September Quilt Walk:
Through Oct. 4 at various locations
throughout downtown Boise.
Boise Basin Quilters' "From Baltimore
to Boise" Quilt Show: Sept. 30-Oct. 1 at
the Boise Centre on the Grove.
Info: 939-9397

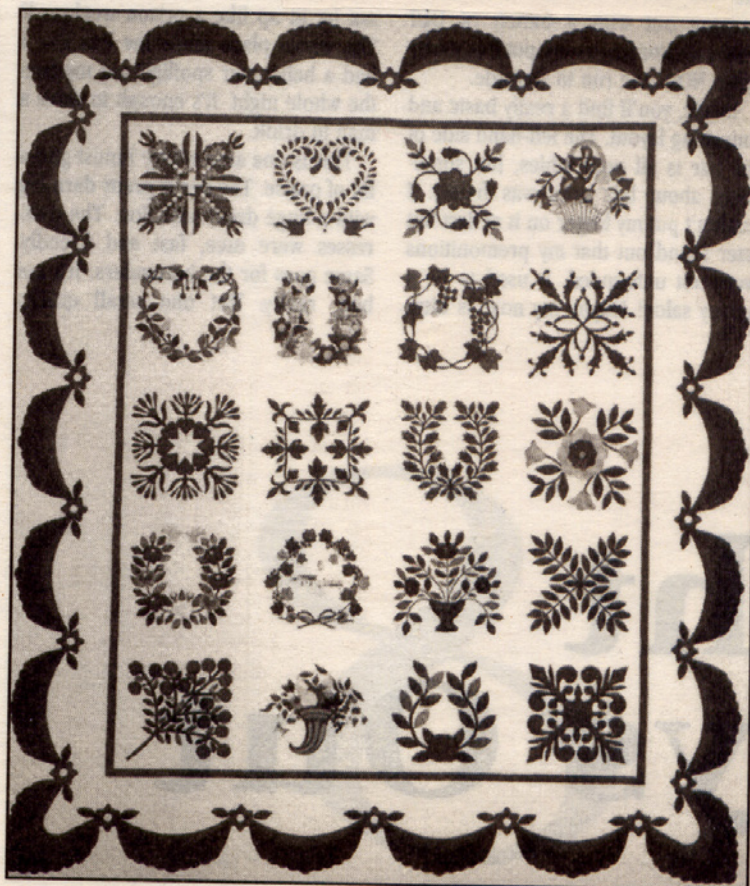
Deep and brilliant colors with swirling stitchery form some non-traditional wall hangings around Boise right now. Nearly 30 businesses, not just art galleries, are providing space to display work from Boise area quilters.

Before you say to yourself, "Why would I want to go see a bunch of Log Cabin pattern quilts just like the one grandma made?", you need to realize that quilting is not what it used to be. True, there are examples of some of the more traditional fare, but experimental methods are more than adequately represented.

The quilts on display in businesses are part of the larger show, "From Baltimore to Boise", coming up at the Boise Centre on the Grove. All of this is organized by the Boise Basin Quilters.

The art quilt movement, only a few decades old, came into being when people could more easily go to the store to buy a blanket. It was not necessary to piece together the scraps from garments made for the family in order to have a blanket. Ironically, when the sewing machine became more available to the common person, the common person became more interested in simply buying garments that were mass-produced. Sewing became a hobby for many and the machine methods opened up new possibilities never imagined by hand sewers.

One of the quilts made by Hope Cox on display at Brown's Gallery is a perfect example of this new breed of quilt. It is not a quilt to be laid upon a bed in the heart of winter, it is to be



This quilt will be raffled at the show on Sunday afternoon.

hung on the wall for decoration and contemplation. The fabric is pieced together in more traditional squares and rectangles but the quilting lines, which add loft and dimension to the piece, are swirling like a blustery day. The autumnal feeling is completed with printed fabrics in golds, greens and oranges, often with a leaf motif.

The Basement Gallery houses a couple pieces with whimsical pictorial elements like a rooster and some flowers. Leona Manke's "Lenny's Light" is a bit more traditional in its construction but the deep, rich hues of the fabrics, some with batik, make this lovely piece truly original.

One of the best places to view several quilts, other than the BC on the Grove, is at Art Source Gallery. This gallery has about a dozen quilts in a

wide variety of styles and techniques. Some are quite traditional with very geometric patterns. Others are quite abstract in form but incorporate intricate linear sewing patterns and even some bead work.

Patty Hinkel produced a rather light-hearted piece called "Coffee Talk." Symbolic images of a coffee cup, stars and hearts playfully fill the space of the quilt. The jovial quality is mimicked in the undulating edges of the quilt. The more representational side of the art quilt is seen in DuAnn Wright's "West Mountain Aspens," produced in a way that almost paints a landscape scene. In the end, there are about as many different styles as there are quilters in the displays.

—Tyrus Clutter