

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL FOR QUILTERS

LUANA RUBIN



FROM LEFT: Rosario Casanovas, Noriko Endo, and Luana Rubin (author) at the Tokyo Quilt Festival. Cecile Trentini at the Birmingham Festival of Quilts. Friends of the authors during a recent trip to Mexico.

One of my favorite parts about my business, is being able to travel overseas to quilt festivals in other countries.

When I travel, I always bring my camera to capture both allover and closeup detail shots of the unique quilts I see. I especially love to photograph quilts that express the local culture and textile traditions of the makers.

Sometimes I travel overseas to *share* those photos with other quilters, to show them what other quilters around the world are doing with their latest works. I share color and design trends, but also show closeup photos of techniques to illustrate those trends.

Quilts can share powerful messages as works of art, and when we enter quilt exhibits abroad, it can give us the opportunity to show and talk about our work with quilters and art enthusiasts who have a different perspective.



FRESH QUILTING

In a world where so many feel polarized and divided, our quilts can bring us together on common ground where we share our passion for sewing and working with fabric and color.

Last year I made a quilt about the Animas River being poisoned in Durango Colorado, and I put messages in the quilt that the locals were afraid to speak about. The quilt ended up in the "Water is Life" exhibit at the United Nations in Geneva, and at an embassy exhibit in Rome. So many people approached me at the opening receptions, wanting to hear more about the story of my quilt.

Sometimes the images or ideas in our quilts can say more than words, and often we can inspire others to express themselves through their textile arts. Some of my greatest travel memories are around the exchange of creative ideas, with artists who have totally different quilting and sewing traditions.

ABOUT LUANA RUBIN

Luana Rubin is the co-owner of eQuilter.com, and has worked as a designer in the quilt, textile and garment industries since 1980. She is a licensed designer for Robert Kaufman Fabrics, and a Bernina Ambassador. She is also a chairholder in the Color Marketing Group, an international color forecasting association. eQuilter donates 2% of sales to charity, and they have raised \$1.4 million for a variety of organizations. Over 12,000 donated comfort quilts have been received at eQuilter from customers, and these are distributed around the world for disaster relief, orphans, and medical patients.



FROM TOP: Luana Rubin (author) meets a diplomat at "Water is Life" exhibit at the United Nations in Geneva. Attendees of the Tokyo Quilt Festival marvel at the quilts exhibited.

UNDERWRITTEN BY:

