Textile Compositions by Helen Howes

Recognizing the contribution art has had in the Mayo Clinic environment since the original Mayo Clinic Building was finished in 1914, Mayo Clinic Proceedings features some of the numerous works of art displayed throughout the buildings and grounds on Mayo Clinic campuses as interpreted by the author.

Helen Howes was uniquely and primarily a kite maker who expanded her work into other textile arts. Howes notes she was sewing before she knew how to read and is a member of numerous quilting guilds.\(^1\) Not surprisingly, Howes also works with sewing machines and sewing machine parts.\(^2\) She shares a studio with her husband who specializes in woodworking. The couple resides in Raveningham, Norfolk, United Kingdom.\(^1\)

Three 30×30-inch configurations by Howes make up Textile Compositions. They are cotton material that is quilted to create the multicolored forest. Mauves, blues, oranges, and greens walk us through the seasons of life in a forest — the green of spring, the sun-streaked days of summer, the ruddy blush of ripened fruit, and the golden hues of autumn.

Textile Compositions is located in the hallway to the Generose Building at Mayo Clinic Hospital, Saint Marys Campus, Rochester, Minnesota.

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