

# “HEAT” Challenge

## JUROR’S STATEMENT

There are a wide variety of **definitions for heat**: temperature, emotion, kinetic energy affecting the earth and atmosphere, even the taste of food! I’ve been tasked to choose artwork that interprets this theme.

**Quilts on the Wall** artists did not make it easy. They used a wide variety of colors and techniques to warm me up!

**Sharen Jaeger’s** exquisitely pieced ***Promise in a Desert Sunrise*** shows a quiet, peaceful heat rising above the earth. In contrast, **Karen Markley**, using the same colors in her hand painted ***Lava Flow*** shows an out of control, destructive force spilling from beneath the earth.

***Hot Lava*** by **Sharon Oblinger** uses hot shades in a more ordered, geometric fashion, oddly calming the flow as the vapors of the heat rise in coils. Deep reds and organic shapes in Laurie Mutalipassi’s ***Molten Fire*** depict the frenzied hot mass as it makes its way to the ocean. **Vicki Bohnhoff’s** ***Heat + Sand = Glass*** interprets the flow of a hot liquid as well, the little white dots in the composition threatening to jump out and burn the viewer who gets too close!

***What’s Your Scoville*** seems to say “Kapow!” with its fun shapes and colors and sparkly stitches. **Ann Turley’s** playfulness is tasty in more ways than one!

The somewhat cooler pinks and reds in ***Sunshiny Day***, by **Beth Shibley**, give a sense of passionate play, particularly with the beautiful hand stitching throughout. Hot, hand dyed colors in **Janet Tranbarger’s** ***Crazy Hot*** are wonderfully pieced and warms up the room again.

**Carol Churchill**, interpreting the environment in ***Striations***, exposes a thermogenic layer buried inside the earth. The carefully hand painted white edges effectively portray movement, the earth is not static and could erupt at any time!

***In the Heat of the Passion Flower*** by **Christine Castano** uses a play on words with the subject and color. Even the green in the background seems to ripple from the heat.

I chose two pieces depicting fire, both beautiful in their lapping shapes and colors. ***Floating Flames***, by **Carol Churchill**, seems to contain the fire into a single flame. Her use of multicolored fibers and gold hand-stitched “sparks” show a mesmerizing combination of almost muted colors. In contrast, **Jennifer Beatty**, in ***Burning***, uses a variety of bold colors and shapes, where the blaze seems to leap off the wall.

All the quilts, when viewed together, displays a progression of skilled technique and workmanship. Each individual piece shows an intensity of feeling, which, when viewed together ignite a fiery response in the viewer. Take off your jacket and enjoy the exhibit! I am grateful for the opportunity to view the wonderful artwork created by the **Quilts on the Wall artists**. It has been a privilege to choose and organize their work into this exhibit. These artists were fueled by their passion for art making in the quilt medium. I commend the energy of the group, and encourage all of them to keep making art!

**Kathleen McCabe**