



Judith Reece—Artist Statement

I have had a lifelong interest in art and textiles and my formal art training began at the Cleveland College of Art and Design. After graduating with a BA in International Textiles and Surface Pattern, I worked freelance, producing designs for the wallpaper and furnishing fabric industry.

I have also worked in art education, as well as showing in many exhibitions both group and solo. I now spend all of my time making work for commissions and galleries, including my own, The Art Cafe in Whitby. Over the last 5 years, my work has sold to many collectors from all over the world.

My influences are the natural colours, forms and textures of the North Yorkshire moors and heritage coast where I live. My current work is largely landscape-based and influenced by the extremities of weather conditions observed from my studio. I take photographs and paint and draw my ideas in sketchbooks, before developing my designs, exploring a range of textile techniques. I like to stretch the effects of layering and heat-distressing, using a range of fabrics and papers. I buy a huge range of undyed fabrics—cottons, silks, linens etc all of which I hand-dye to create subtle blends of colour. I love the way that every type of fabric and paper reacts differently in the same dyebath and therefore create a subtle blend of colour.

The materials are then selected, layered and stitched together using metallic threads. They are then cut, torn or melted back to create a textural study and then highlighted with delicate beading.

