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PRESS RELEASE

Spectacular stitching at Truro Cathedral: Creating the world in eight million stitches.



From 08 July to 20 August, Truro Cathedral is playing host to 'Threads through Creation', a stunning exhibition of twelve enormous, embroidered silk panels that explore the story of Creation.

'Threads Through Creation' is an exhibition that has attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors across England, and this is the only chance to see it in Cornwall.

Inspired by the poetic verses of Genesis, the first book in the Bible, textile artist Jacqui Parkinson re-imagines this ancient story in a vibrant combination of layers of silk, hand-dyed materials, metallic leathers and gold leaf, miles of thread, and more than eight million stitches.

The panels are huge – 3m/8ft high by as much as 4m/13ft wide - and vary in appearance from powerful, elemental pieces illustrating the first days to highly complex and lush work as we enter the Garden of Eden.

Jacqui Parkinson's work is always eye-catching and attractive, designed to be accessible for viewers of all ages. Whilst the serious context of God's good earth and man's impact on it underlies the entire exhibition, the embroidery itself is bold and exuberant, with many delightful, quirky details both accurate and fanciful creatures embroidered into the stories.



Jacqui says, 'It's a pleasure to have the exhibition in Truro Cathedral, such a lovely, tranquil gem of a building. The creation story itself is a lovely gem in the bible. I hope the panels will add a sparkle to everyone's visit here.'

Speaking about how she works, Jacqui said: "I start simply with antique bedsheets, which hold their own tales of life and death. Then I gradually build up my stories by quilting the sheets and painting them with fabric dyes. Once that is done, I add layers of silk, which I stitch into place using thick black thread and a free-motion sewing machine. This allows me to construct my 'drawings' line upon line. Then I add gold and metallic leathers as finishing touches, overall creating great richness as a feast for the eye!

Jacqui adds: 'My aim is to capture the wonderful extravagance of the Creation story and to delight people who view it. Despite Adam and Eve's fall from grace, it remains a story of love and promise, something we can all do with these days.'

Dean Simon Robinson said, "Welcoming Jacqui Parkinson's incredible exhibition 'Threads through Creation' is another first for Cornwall. This extraordinary exhibition aims to engage the observer with the story of creation found in the book of Genesis. It consists of 12 huge textile panels which tell one of the foundational Christian stories and is in one of the largest textile exhibitions created by a single artist. I am delighted that, yet again, Truro Cathedral, itself a majestic architectural gem, is bringing such a significant artwork to Cornwall. I hope that every visitor to the cathedral is simply bowled over by this incredible exhibition."

Threads through Creation runs at Truro Cathedral from Tuesday 08 July to Sunday 20 August and is available to view during [general visiting times](#). There is no charge for admission to the cathedral, but donations are very much appreciated.

Additional Information:

Images

Lead image and extra images can be downloaded from here: <https://we.tl/t-xkXX0KI9nj>

Social Media Channels

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/TruroCathedral/>

X <https://x.com/TruroCathedral>

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/trurocathedral/>

Bluesky (1) [Truro Cathedral \(@trurocathedral.bsky.social\) — Bluesky](#)

About Truro Cathedral

Truro Cathedral is a vibrant, active church at the physical and spiritual heart of our city. Built by the people of Cornwall for everyone to experience and enjoy, Truro Cathedral plays an important role in our modern lives, striking an important balance to provide both sacred space in which the holiness of God is encountered openly and inclusively, and common ground, where issues shared by the whole of humanity can be explored.

Run as an independent, self-funded entity, Truro Cathedral continues to develop its long term strategic plan, ensuring that the organisation has the resilience to flourish and continue to serve the communities of Cornwall for generations to come. To find out more, visit www.trurocathedral.org.uk

About Jacqui Parkinson

Jacqui Parkinson is a textile artist, using fabric and stitching to produce spectacular panels. Her principal interest is in bringing the message of God's love through her artwork, providing information, affirmation, questions, encouragement, and pleasure - and sometimes bringing a little bit of fun as well as serious theology.

Jacqui was born in Manchester and lived in London for many years, where she taught drama and then ran an arts centre. Discovering a love for stitching at a textile workshop changed her life: she went on to take a degree in Embroidered Textiles and turn to textile art as a career.

From 2004 to 2011 she was commissioned to stitch first one, and then a series of eleven small exhibitions to tour cathedrals for The Deo Gloria Trust. These exhibitions have been touring ever since and have been on show in most of the cathedrals of England. Jacqui moved to Devon in 2009 and soon began to work on a larger scale.

In 2014 she started what is reckoned to be the largest textile project by a single artist, ever - 'Threads through Revelation', which re-imagined the last book in the Bible, in fourteen huge panels. It toured 14 cathedrals between 2016 and 2018. She then worked on 'Threads through Creation', which has taken three years to produce. This touring exhibition has been touring twenty cathedrals and great churches, and this is the first and only time scheduled for Cornwall.

Her exhibitions have attracted more than a million visitors. She has now also completed a trilogy - Threads through the Bible consists of Threads through Creation, Threads through the Cross and Threads through Revelation, 44 huge panels that started touring at Liverpool Cathedral in 2025 and is planned to continue into 2028.

Jacqui interviews very well on tv and radio. To organise an interview with Jacqui, please contact Andrew Parkinson: 01626 854572 / andrewparkinson.456@gmail.com