



Cuesta Benberry: Quilt Treasures Web Portrait

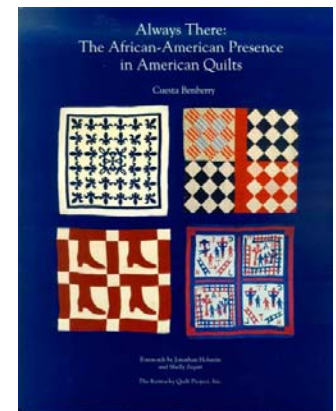


For nearly 50 years, Cuesta Benberry has been making significant contributions to the quilt world as a lecturer, workshop leader, seminar director, film, tv and radio program participant, curator, researcher and author. She was first introduced to quilts and quilt patterns by women from her husband's family in Kentucky. Her interest was sparked; and it grew into a lifelong passion for pattern collecting and quilt history research, which she initially pursued through round robin pattern exchanges and correspondence. Cuesta's research has contributed considerable knowledge the field of quilt studies. She has written four books and her articles have been published in many venues including *International Review of African American Art*, *Uncoverings* (the journal of the American Quilt Study Group), *Nimble Needle Treasures*, *Quilter's Journal*, and *Quilter's Newsletter Magazine*.

Her book *Always There: The African American Presence in American Quilts*, countered many mainstream art historical assumptions that categorized African American quilting within specific visual styles.

Excerpted from Cuesta Benberry's biography written by:
Marsha MacDowell
Mary Worrall

To view the rest of this biography visit: <http://www.centerforthequilt.org/treasures>



The **Quilt Treasures** Project was conceived by The Alliance for American Quilts to document the stories of a limited number of notable individuals — quilt makers, designers, business people, collectors, scholars, publishers — who were instrumental in moving the 20th century quilt revival forward in some significant way. Quilt Treasures seeks to make this documentation available in a variety of media: digitally on the web through web portraits and mini-documentaries and in archival form at Michigan State University Museum.

Cuesta Benberry passed away on August 28, 2007. The Alliance's mission is to document, preserve and share the stories of quiltmakers and of individuals, like Cuesta, who have advanced the study of quilts and quiltmakers. We believe this is critical and time-sensitive work. We are so fortunate to have interviewed and collaborated with Cuesta for this Quilt Treasures portrait.

For more information on how you can help preserve quilt history today contact The Alliance for American Quilts at information@quiltalliance.org or (828) 251-7073.