

CAPE ANN Museum

Fisherman's Wives quilt at Cape Ann Museum to recognize 20th anniversary of famous statue commemorating heroic women and their families

Quilt on view through September 26, LuminArtz installation from August 5 through August 12



Protecting the Oceans that God Has Created: A narrative quilt made by members of the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Association in collaboration with Clara Wainwright (1998) On loan from the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives Association

GLOUCESTER, Mass. (August 2021) – In recognition of the 20th anniversary of the installation of the Fishermen's Wives statue on Stacy Boulevard in Gloucester, the Cape Ann Museum will be displaying the Gloucester Fishermen's Wives quilt in its galleries at 27 Pleasant Street. The quilt was made in 1998 by members of the Wives Association under the leadership of Clara Wainwright and will be on view through September 26.

The quilt, which is titled *Protecting the Oceans that God Has Created*, is composed of 18 small panels encircling a larger one. The small panels recount the Fishermen's Wives Association's many accomplishments including successfully lobbying in support of the 200-mile fishing limit and the banning of oil drilling in fragile fishing grounds. The panels also honor the faith of Gloucester's close-knit fishing community and the celebrations they hold annually.

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From August 5 through August 12, LuminArtz will be projecting *Centuries in the Making*, a new light and sound art installation by Pamela Hersh and Maria Finkelmeier that animates pieces of the quilt, on the east side of the Elias Davis House which is a core part of the Cape Ann Museum at 27 Pleasant Street. The installation will be viewable after sunset, from 8:30 – 10:00 p.m. The galleries will be closed while the installation is on display, although on Thursday August 5 and 12 the Museum has extended hours through 8 p.m. as part of the city-wide Culture Splash initiative. On August 12 from 5:00-7:00, the fishermen's wives have been invited to create self-portraits as part of the Community Portraits Project.

Clara Wainwright has undertaken more than 50 community-based quilt projects in the greater Boston area and the Fishermen's Wives quilt is one of her most successful ones. In 2009, working under the auspices of the Cape Ann Museum, Wainwright oversaw creation of *Grand Right & Left*, a quilt made up of self-portraits of 100 Cape Ann residents. Each of these community projects has allowed people of all ages and backgrounds to create their own art and in doing so better understand themselves and the world they live in.

For more information about the exhibit and other events happening at the Cape Ann Museum, visit www.capeannmuseum.org.

The Cape Ann Museum, founded in 1875, exists to preserve and celebrate the history and culture of the area and to keep it relevant to today's audiences. Spanning 44,000 square feet, the Museum is one of the major cultural institutions on Boston's North Shore welcoming more than 25,000 local, national and international visitors each year to its exhibitions and programs. In addition to fine art, the Museum's collections include decorative art, textiles, artifacts from the maritime and granite industries, three historic homes, a Library & Archives and a sculpture park in the heart of downtown Gloucester. In Summer 2021, the Museum opened the 12,000 square foot Janet & William Ellery James Center at the [Cape Ann Museum Green](#). The campus also includes three historic buildings – the White Ellery House (1710), the recently acquired Babson-Alling House (c.1740), and an adjacent Barn (c. 1740), all located on the site at the intersection of Washington and Poplar Streets in Gloucester. CAM Green is open Thursday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 pm.

The Cape Ann Museum is located at 27 Pleasant Street in Gloucester and is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Admission is \$12.00 adults, \$10.00 Cape Ann residents, seniors and students. Youth (under 18) and Museum members are free. Cape Ann residents can visit for free on the second Saturday of each month. For more information please call (978)283-0455 x110 or visit www.capeannmuseum.org.

For a detailed media fact sheet please visit www.capeannmuseum.org/press.

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