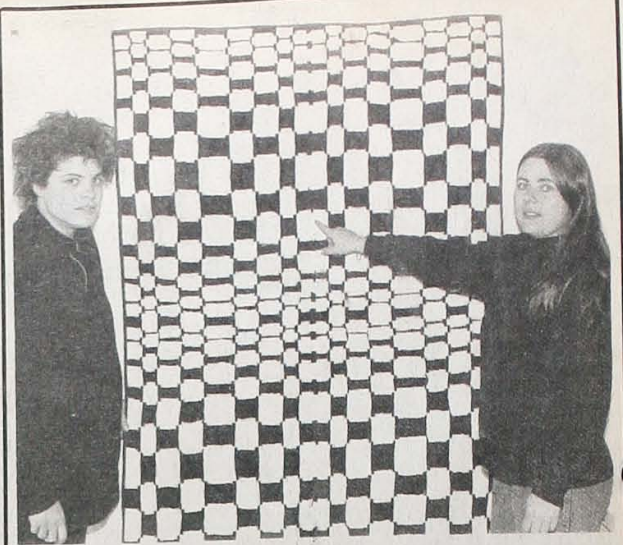




TWO OF THE BEST quilters in Ontario have staged their third quilt show this year. Susan Rankin, left, and Jop Knechtel opened their show in Walkerton last Wednesday evening.

1992

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BEAR EPP, left, director of the Durham Art Gallery and Cindy Carson, administrator of the gallery point out the fine detailing found in Jop Knechtel's *The Secret Side II*. The quilt is displayed with the underside facing the viewer. Ms. Knechtel and Susan A. Rankin, both of Walkerton, have their quilted works on display at the gallery from Feb. 6 to Feb. 29. (Post Photo)

1992

## Quilting as an artform gives new relevance

There's a new twist to a pioneer tradition at the Durham Art Gallery.

Jop Knechtel and Susan Rankin, both of Walkerton, have their variations of traditional quilts and wall hangings on display in an exhibit entitled *Quilted Paths*.

Durham Art Gallery Administrator Bear Epp said the original concept of quilts being strictly for functional use has changed and works like those on display are artforms.

"They're artists and the mediums are fabric, just like some artists use clay," she said.

About a dozen pieces can be seen at the Gallery. There is a

definite difference in style between the two artists, with Ms. Rankin's work being more abstract and using such materials as fiberglass, plastics, stones and wax. Ms. Knechtel prefers the traditional materials, although she has incorporated photographs in one of her works. She mostly uses traditional styles but uses bolder color combinations and has a two-part series on *The Secret Side*, which takes the viewer to the inside of the quilt.

The *Quilted Paths* runs from Feb. 6 to Feb. 29 at the Durham Art Gallery, which is open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.