Creating a Better World

Kathy Price has been inspiring me for 25 years. Our friendship and our partnership to help those in need, spans over 2 decades. Truly, it seems like I have known her forever. When we met, we connected like old friends. She has taught me so much about the power of selfless giving, and humble service. My business generates money for a number of organizations doing good work around the planet, but Mission of Love holds a special place in my heart because of Kathy.

Last year I was invited as an artist to participate in a project to honor heroes in our lives. I immediately knew that I would make a portrait to honor Kathy Price. Having traveled with her on a surgery mission trip to Guatemala several years ago, I knew I had the perfect photo for this work of art. It was a photo of her leaning over an infant, face-to-face, who would receive cleft lip surgery a few days later. The Light emanating from Kathy's face to that baby was pure love. I imagined a portrait with Kathy and the baby, and a C-5 cargo plane in the background. I also wanted to integrate Guatemalan hand-loomed fabrics into the portrait.

My medium for my artwork is fabric. I make what are called Art Quilts or Contemporary Quilts. It is a collage of fabrics that is stitched down to look like embroidery – this is called freemotion quilting. So this quilt you see is many different fabrics cut out and fit together like a jigsaw puzzle on a background, and then stitched with many different colors of thread. It is a metaphor for the way Kathy and her volunteers bring together donations of medicine, supplies, and the most valuable asset – the gift of time given by the doctors, nurses, and loving volunteers who make these projects come together in such a miraculous way. We don't know what we are capable of until we've been touched by Kathy's magic!

To me, one of the greatest things we can learn in this life is how to give selflessly with no strings attached, no expectations, simply giving generously from the heart with a wish and a prayer for healing and strength to the recipient. When we give to children, to indigenous families who have suffered the indignities of poverty and racism, to mothers who want so desperately to care for their own loved ones...it opens chambers of our heart that we never knew were there...and it changes us forever. I thank Kathy for teaching me about these things over the many years of our friendship.

For anyone considering going on a service trip with Kathy Price and Mission of Love, I encourage you to take the leap and you will find wings you never knew were there. Kathy has a special gift for bringing out a strength and sensitive compassion in her volunteers. She has a keen insight and a fierce protecting instinct especially for the children who cross her path. She is also very humble and very human. You have never met anyone like her, and you will treasure the lessons that come when you are traveling on a Mission of Love.

Your donations to Mission of Love will be put to good use and those dollars will be stretched farther than you could imagine. This is why I continue to donate to Mission of Love every month, for 20 years. I trust Kathy implicitly, because I know her priority is to do the most good and help those most in need, in every way humanly possible.

If you would like to see the quilt portrait in person, you can find dates and venues for "A Better World" traveling exhibit listed here:

http://www.abetterworldexhibition.com/about.html

<u>Feb. 27 - March 1, 2020</u> – Mid Atlantic Quilt Festival – Hampton, VA

April 8 - July 12, 2020 - New England Quilt Museum - Lowell, MA

Aug. 4 - Sept. 28, 2020 – Page-Walker Arts & History Center – Cary, NC

Oct. 15 - 18, 2020 - Pacific International Quilt Festival - Santa Clara, CA

Jan. 15 - April 3, 2022 – Visions Art Museum – San Diego, CA

When the exhibit finishes its tour, the quilt will be gifted to Kathy Price and her family.

Luana Rubin

Luana Rubin is the co-owner and founder of $\underline{eQuilter.com}$ in Boulder Colorado. By donating 2% of sales each month, eQuilter has raised over \$1.6 million for charity in 20 years. Mission of Love has partnered with eQuilter to distribute over 14,000 donated comfort quilts since 9/11.



Kathleen Price

