

Quilts 'From the Heart' on show at the National Art Gallery

'From the Heart', an exhibition of art quilts at the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands, opens, appropriately, on Valentine's Day, Wednesday 14th February and runs through 17th March.

The exhibition highlights the graphic power of quilts and illustrates the use of textiles as a medium of creative expression.

According to a release from the National Art Gallery, the majority of the quilts are coming to Cayman from two different travelling exhibitions. There are local quilts on display as well, and the highlight of the exhibition will be a quilt in progress entitled, Love of our Island, by the local quilting group, which includes Mrs. Suzanne Smith, wife of the Governor, Mr. Peter Smith.

Each of the participating quilt group members designed and created their own individual square, expressing something that they, as individuals, love about the Cayman Islands.

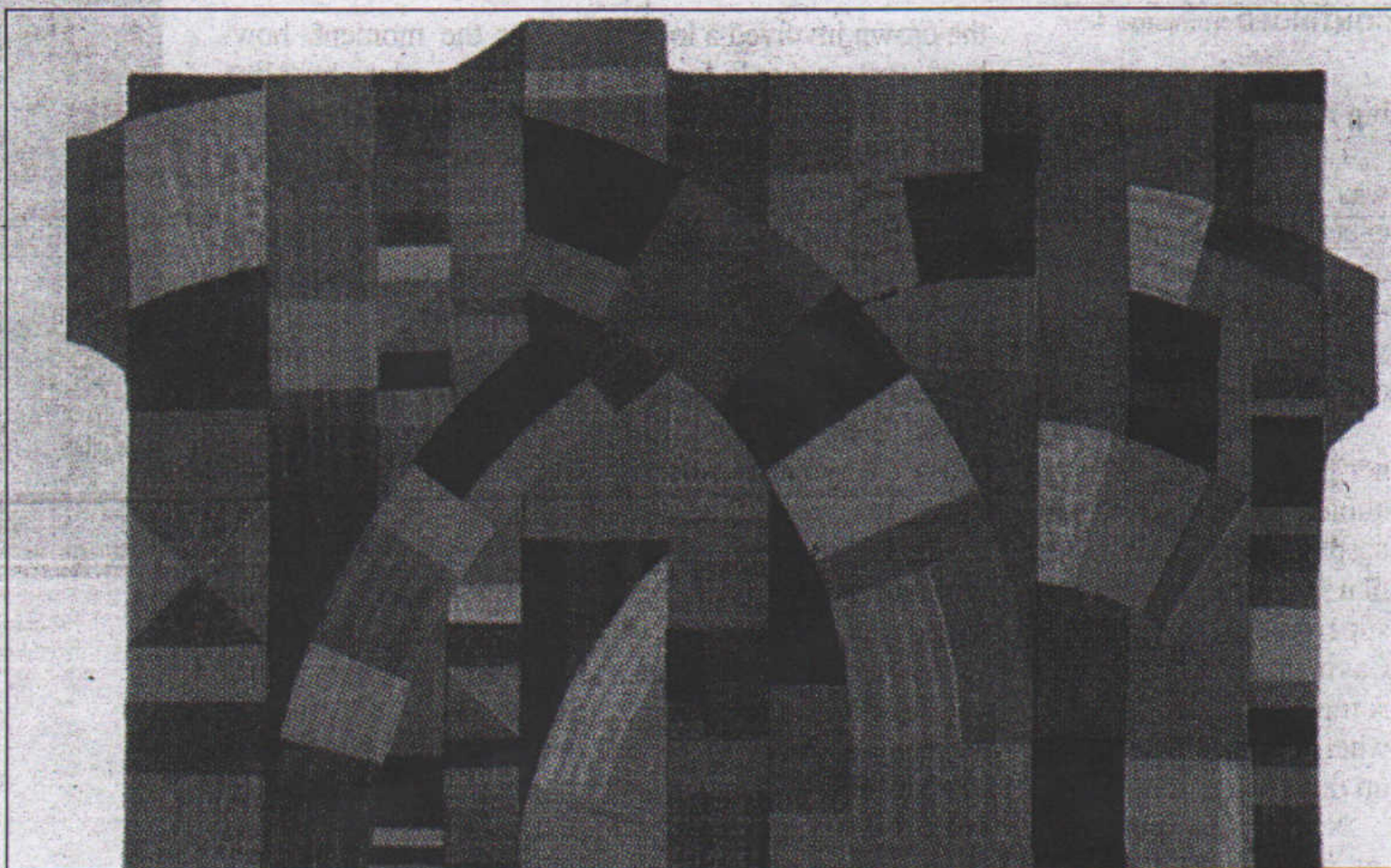
Each square was then joined with the others to

The exhibition opens at 6:30pm on Valentine's Day, and the public is invited to attend.

'From the Heart' will be open weekdays from 10:00am to 7:00pm and on Saturdays from 11:00am to 4:00pm. Call the National Gallery at 945-8111 for more information.



From the Heart



Evening in Byzantium By Marilyn Henrion

when they visit the Gallery throughout the month.

New forms of art expression are finding their way into the major international museums. Contemporary art quilts are now being included in collections around the world.

Colour and texture are everywhere in this exhibition of textile art. The tactile nature of cloth makes these textile 'paintings', 'drawings', and 'prints' particularly appealing, as does the refreshing nature of the works, which break almost all the rules of traditional quilt making.

Many of the works carry photographed, stamped, or drawn imagery, a new form of 'printing' that contrasts with the prints of yesterday's calico and chintz. But today's designs, as the exhibition amply demonstrates, are, however, not likely to 'repeat' as traditional quilt patterns. did. Many quilts are composed of words or abstract images.

And, in the quilts where the time-honoured techniques have been employed, they have been updated or freed from the conventional ways we are used to seeing. The result is a show of some boldly experimental works where textiles function more as canvasses and where techniques appear more 'painterly', than merely