

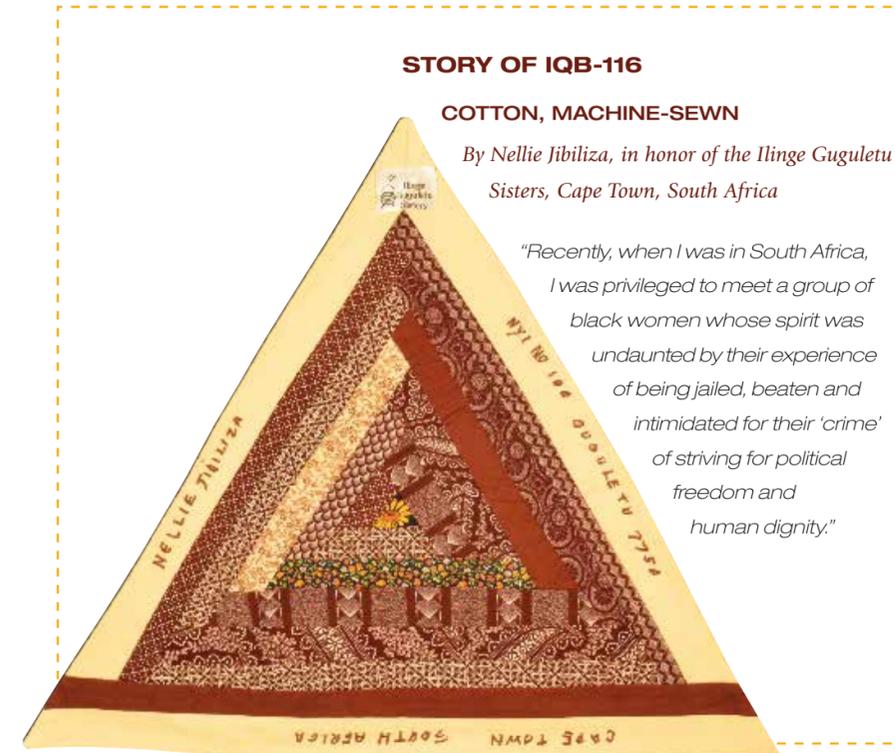
# 540 Stories 1 Magnificent Quilt

## POWERFUL STORIES OF THE FEMININE SPIRIT

The International Honor Quilt (IHQ) is a collaborative, grassroots feminist art project initiated by artist Judy Chicago “to extend the spirit of The Dinner Party” on its world tour during the 1980s.

The IHQ consists of a collection of 539 individual panels using a wide variety of materials and techniques that can be assembled into a multi-sectional, monumental work of art, the 540th story!

The panels have been made by different women or groups honoring and addressing individually selected women, women’s organizations or women’s issues, to expand the number of women honored by Chicago’s “The Dinner Party.” In addition to the individual panels, the IHQ collection contains documentation about the makers, honorees, techniques and materials of each panel.



### STORY OF IQB-116

**COTTON, MACHINE-SEWN**

By Nellie Jibiliza, in honor of the Ilinge Guguletu Sisters, Cape Town, South Africa

*“Recently, when I was in South Africa, I was privileged to meet a group of black women whose spirit was undaunted by their experience of being jailed, beaten and intimidated for their ‘crime’ of striving for political freedom and human dignity.”*

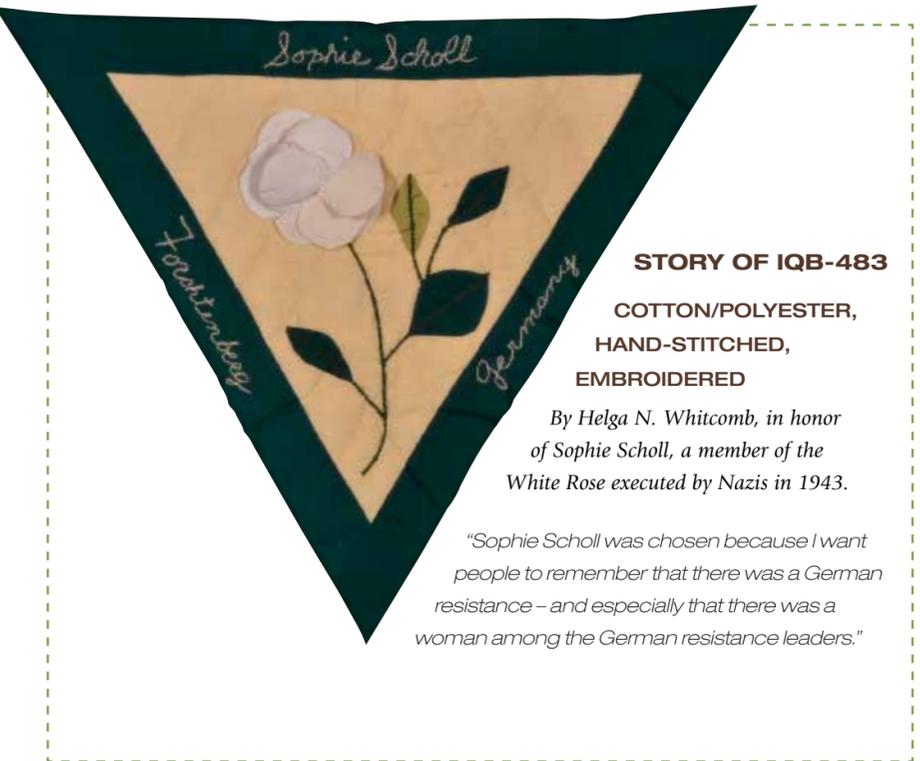
## A Treasured Gift Comes to Louisville

In October 2013, after being in storage since 1996, the International Honor Quilt (IHQ) was gifted to the University of Louisville and its Hite Art Institute by Through the Flower, a 501(c)3 non-profit feminist art organization founded in 1978 by Judy Chicago.

Louisville resident Shelly Zegart, an international quilt expert, Executive Director and host of “Why Quilts Matter: History, Art and Politics,” served as a catalyst for placing the collection with UofL. She now chairs the governance committee that oversees the integration and use of the IHQ at the university.

Today, the IHQ is permanently housed and cared for as part of the Hite Art Institute’s Collection. It will be used as an agent to demonstrate the power of art to shape society. In addition, the Hite intends to:

- Provide** access to the IHQ and its related archival materials to scholars, educators, the community and future generations, encouraging greater scholarship and research opportunities in art as a social practice as well as aesthetic experience.
- Initiate** inclusive and collaborative programs in order to **1)** educate through research opportunities, interdisciplinary academic programming, exhibitions and related scholarly symposia; **2)** engage scholars and the community through providing access; and **3)** excite the community through public programming and outreach activities to schools and other community institutions.
- Encourage** and create new interdisciplinary academic programs and courses that highlight, explore and expand the intersection of art, politics and dispossessed persons and communities to engage with art as a tool for social change.
- Document** to the broader community the art that ensures that women’s achievements and contributions have been and are recognized, recorded and honored.



### STORY OF IQB-483

**COTTON/POLYESTER, HAND-STITCHED, EMBROIDERED**

By Helga N. Whitcomb, in honor of Sophie Scholl, a member of the White Rose executed by Nazis in 1943.

*“Sophie Scholl was chosen because I want people to remember that there was a German resistance – and especially that there was a woman among the German resistance leaders.”*

## Viewing & Research Opportunities

Since receiving the gift, Hite Art Institute staff have expanded the original documentation materials, initially compiled by Dr. Marilee Schmit Nason, to create a searchable database. This includes individual images of all quilt panels, the makers’ documentation and the story behind their pieces.

- The IHQ database is now available online at [uofl.me/intl-honor-quilt](http://uofl.me/intl-honor-quilt).
- The Hite also welcomes research inquiries, requests for appointments to view quilt panels, or discussion of possibilities for exhibition loans.
- Email [ihqinfo@louisville.edu](mailto:ihqinfo@louisville.edu) or call 502.852.5917 or 502.852.1431 to make an appointment at the IHQ study center in the Hite’s Visual Resources Center.



### STORY OF IQB-095

**COTTON, VELVETEEN AND FELT, MACHINE-STITCHED, HAND-EMBROIDERED**

By Kent Juhan, Corinne Edmonson, Elaine Mayberry, Donna Smith, Gail Stern and Carol Winocour in honor of “Our Group.”

*“We are in our FIFTH year of weekly meetings during which we discuss women’s issues of interest to our group. Among those we have chosen are: careers for women, support systems, crying, anger, traditional vs. new roles for women, risk taking, fantasies, family, etc. We have developed a precious mutual caring and are proud of its depth and duration.”*



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UNIVERSITY OF  
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HITE ART INSTITUTE

*"Extending  
the Spirit of  
The Dinner Party"*

# THE INTERNATIONAL HONOR QUILT

