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THE SCARLET LETTER



Big Noogie returns to Smoke Ham Farm

Welcome to The Scarlet Letter.

It's a new year with new designs, new ideas, and new inspirations. My website will be updated soon and there may be some ruts in the road, but you can always contact me directly with questions.

What's New



ANN JONES 1776



Ann Jones

In the upper register of this finely stitched English sampler there is featured an unusual vignette of Adam and Eve beneath the tree of life (with a menacing black faced serpent) flanked by mirror image brick cottages (his and hers?), followed by a pious verse:

*Praise the Lord enthron'd on high
Praise him in his Sanctity
Praise him for his mighty Deed
Praise him for mity Seeds*

[More about Ann Jones](#)



ELIZABETH CHEETHAM

1824





Elizabeth Cheetham

This is a pleasantly quirky, colorful sampler likely stitched in the north of England judging by some of the Scottish influences in the design. The verse are:

*Make much of precious Time WHILE in Your Power
Careful well to Husband Evry Hour for Time Will
Come When You shall Sore Lament the unhappy
Minutes That you have Misspent*

*Let Little be the Name of Truth this is the Practice
Of my Youth With Care and Cost I have this Rought
And Finished With a virgins Thought*

[More about Elizabeth Cheetham](#)



MAN DOGS & DEER



Man Dogs and Deer

Flora and fauna were highly celebrated in nearly all 17th and 18th century pictorial

embroideries. Executed entirely in cross or tent (half cross) stitches, the embroidered pictures embellished cushions and furniture and reflected a changing attitude toward domestic comforts, by serving to brighten monochromatic wood and stone interiors.

More about Man Dogs and Deer



A Couple in an Exotic Landscape

This is an usual early 18th century needlework picture (circa 1730). The formula is similar to other examples: a couple flanking a tree, but it is usually more like a biblical "Tree of Life" with deciduous leaves and fruit, and the couples look more traditionally western. The exotic woman appears to be holding either a zither or a book: the gentleman appears to be playing a pipe as he leans on a sheep crook. All of the traditional elements are there- shepherd, shepherdess, sheep, dog, yet something is odd. The "Tree of Life" looks more like a palm tree, or possibly a tobacco plant...

More about A Couple in an Exotic Landscape

New Book



The Educated Stitch

"The Educated Stitch"

WITNEY ANTIQUES NEW PUBLICATION

The majority of historic samplers that we see today were worked as part of a child's education, many in the home, but the majority worked in the classroom. They were done by children from every kind of social, economic and religious backgrounds, as illustrated in this beautiful new catalogue. Seventy eight beautifully photographed illustrations, with text, are in this 71 page full color catalogue. The first 35 purchased will receive a free chart of an English "Puzzle sampler" similar to one illustrated on Plate 40.

\$32.00 plus \$7.50 for priority postage.

[More about The Educated Stitch](#)



Please check our full inventory of [antique samplers](#) for new markdowns.



Agnes Clark

AGNES CLARK AGED 8 CIRCA 1846

Probably Scottish sampler on a loosely woven homespun linen with a four sided floral border and two rows of alphabets and numerals.

[More about Agnes Clark](#)



Jane Dale

JANE DALE 1843

English sampler stitched with wool on linen depicting two large cats, a parrot, a cockatoo, a duck, a stag and a dog, worked mostly in cross stitch with eyelet lettering.

[More about Jane Dale](#)



Margarat Mure

MARGARAT MURE AGED NINE

CIRCA 1765

Very finely stitched Scottish sampler featuring the traditional mansion house seen on so many Scottish samplers of this period, with an extensive garden and stone walls.

[More about Margarat Mure](#)



IB/RB/HB

IB RB HB

Early nineteenth century Scottish sampler featuring several unusual horizontal pattern bands derived from much earlier Scottish samplers.

[More about IB/RB/HB](#)



Elizabeth Alford

ELIZABETH ALFORD 1818

Elizabeth Alford Very fine English sampler with a large central motif of elaborately cross stitched roses, with pious verses on either side. Adam and Eve are stitched at the top, cherubs flying above with the moon and stars and elaborate crowns and evergreen trees on either side.

[More about Elizabeth Alford](#)



*Unsigned English Sampler
circa 1800*

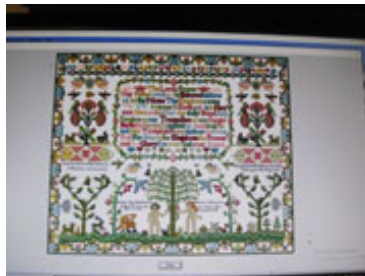
*UNSIGNED ENGLISH SAMPLER DEPICTING HARLEQUIN AND COLOMBINA,
circa 1800*

The story of Harlequin and Colombina (Columbine) originated in Italy in the early 17th century in the Commedia dell'Arte.

[More about 'Unsigned English Sampler Depicting Harlequin and Colombina'](#)



COMING SOON



Elizabeth Chamberlin

ELIZABETH CHAMBERLIN

Elizabeth Chamberlin 1775, screen shot of design pictured, available December 2019

If you'd like to see many of The Scarlet Letter's stitched models on display, you should plan to visit Lynn's of Madison, at 5928 Odana Road, Madison, WI 53719 (lynnsfmadison.com) This is where I have my samplers laced (yes- laced!) and framed. Their selection of frames is wonderful, and their workwomanship is beyond

exceptional.

Wishing you the warmest New Year,
with love from all of the creatures at Smoke Ham Farm



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