

NELL BURNS

Nell is an award-winning contemporary textile artist, specialising in free form machine embroidery, who essentially draws and paints with thread, using the needle as her pencil, and the fabric as the canvas. Her artwork has always had sculptural elements, using fabrics and stabilizers to create 3D art.

Currently, she employs techniques to sculpt using only stitched thread. The process is unusual. Embroidery traditionally is used to decorate and embellish a cloth with stitching, but she uses embroidery to make the cloth with stitching and manipulates that into a decorative form. Nell has been developing techniques to create 3D seamless embroidery with just stitched thread, no fabric, using traditional machine straight and zigzag stitch to create non traditional sculptural forms. Creating sculptures that are stand alone, sturdy sculptural artworks from a spool (or more!) of thread both challenges and excites her. Feeling the work should be just as tactile as the thread they were stitched from so she doesn't allow the use of stabilisers or glue as the strength comes from the stitches.

Nell thrives to make the detail, design and texture in her artwork innovative.