

A Brief Artist Statement: Nancy Gipple; Pandemic Cry #1, #2, #3, #4, #5

These five quilts are a series started during the covid pandemic lockdown and completed in early 2022.

They were triggered by the murder of George Floyd and are my way of chanting, crying, pleading and joining the widespread demonstrations of people who abhor and condemn the long practiced, pernicious, both intentional and unconscious endemic practice of racism in our culture.

I was moved by the actions of everyday people to call attention to and protest this scourge of calloused hatred, lynching, which has resulted in the deaths of so many people of color; innocent victims who had been going about the ordinary activities of their lives. That ultimate cruelty leaves unimaginable suffering, longing and loss in the world left behind. It is yet another pandemic.

Like the marchers who carried homemade signs of affirmation; "Black Lives Matter", acknowledging/ protesting these brutal acts, I felt compelled to do the same with my work; saying it over and over again and seeing it where ever I looked, no matter the time of day, the weather, or the season. Black Lives Matter.

My wish for this work is for it to be seen along with the works of many other like minded people who share a similar spirit and vision.

In a time with dissonant, disposable and throw away culture, with its carelessness and alienation I work in the realm of the contemporary quilt with its historical roots in the traditions of commemoration, caring, comforting, nurturing and frugality. While using, re-using and recycling materials from today's world, I re-examine, re-present, re-member, and re-imagine.