

An artistic celebration of the influence of Scots and their culture around the world.

Communities from thirty-four nations joining together to tell their stories.

Honoured to exhibit in contributing countries across Europe in 2015.



The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry

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Scotland's global legacy as it has never been seen before, stitched by Diaspora communities in 34 countries across the world!

# The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry – European Tour 2015

## Welcoming the World

The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry is an inspiringly ambitious community arts project organised by Prestoungrange Arts Festival, the team behind the famous *Prestonpans Tapestry*.

Since 2012 we have been contacting communities with Scottish roots right across the world, offering an irresistible invitation: why not tell Scotland *your* story!

Since then a vast team of international volunteers has been busy researching, reporting, and stitching their links to Scotland. No other visual arts project has ever attempted to connect the Scottish Diaspora in this way!

## **Creating the Tapestry**

With communities far and wide sending us their stories, our artist Andrew Crummy prepared panel designs for their verification. With details agreed, the stitching commenced!

The completed Tapestry records stories from thirty-four different countries, spanning the centuries and reflecting the breadth and influence of Scotland's diaspora legacy.

Thousands of hours' work, millions of stitches by hundreds of volunteer hands, will now come together to form a major exhibition which launched in 2014 and is now touring the world.

16<sup>th</sup> March - 11<sup>th</sup> April

BERGEN, Norway: Raadhus

Hosts: Bergen Scottish Society/ Margaret Torbjornsen

30<sup>th</sup> May - 26<sup>th</sup> July

**VEERE, The Netherlands: Scots House Museum** 

Hosts: Museum The Scottish Houses / Stichting Veere-Schotland

8<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> August

BARGA, Italy: Conservatorio Santa Elisabetta

Hosts: Hosts Commune di Barga

29<sup>th</sup> August - 26<sup>th</sup> September

PICINISCO, Italy: Museum of Commune di Picinisco

Hosts: Marietta & Cesidio di Ciacca

5<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> October

**PARIS, France: Boussy Saint Antoine** 

Hosts: Town of Boussy Saint Antoine and the Twinning Association of Boussy Saint Antoine

Australasia from December 2015 & North America in 2016!

www.scottishdiasporatapestry.org/exhibitions

### Scotland's Year of Homecoming

The tapestry was created to coincide with Scotland's Year of Homecoming in 2014. It launched in our town of Prestonpans in May before visiting Edinburgh, Stirling, Paisley, Inverness, Wick, and Helmsdale. Visitors came in their tens of thousands to admire its beauty and its tales.

Many of the tapestry's embroiderers came too, often revisiting the land and communities from which their ancestors migrated.

### **Back to the Diaspora**

We always promised as we were creating the tapestry that we would do our very best to take it back to as many of the communities who stitched it as we could. This is a considerable logistical challenge, but then no greater than that of creating the tapestry in the first place!

At each location we are working once again with those who helped create the tapestry to ensure the widest opportunity for all to share in its majesty, particularly involving young people.

#### **Beyond the Tours**

The tapestry will be back home in Prestonpans again by 2017 when its role as an educational inspiration to young Scots will continue and where it will continue to attract the admiration of embroiderers everywhere.

Chile **Australia** Germany Jamaica **Argentina** China Lithuania Italy Malawi **Antarctica Ethiopia** India **England** Republic of **Netherlands** Brazil Ireland **New Zealand** Canada France

The Scottish Diaspora Tapestry was created with the generous support of:











N. Ireland	Portugal	Taiwan
Norway	Russia	Tristan da Cunha
Pakistan	Sri Lanka	United States of
Palestine/Isreal	South Africa	America
Poland	Sweden	Zimbabwe