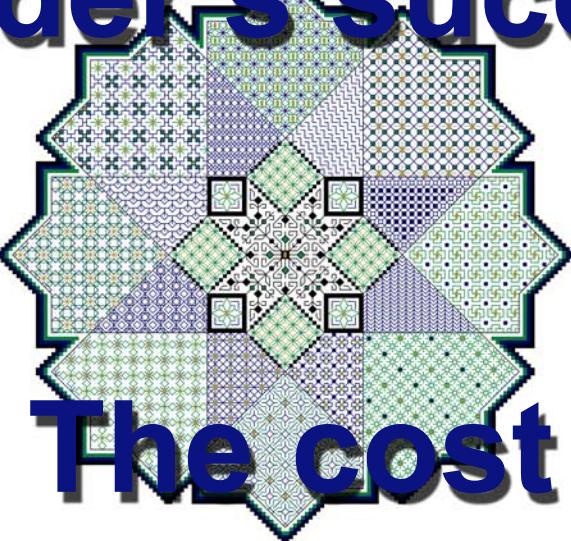




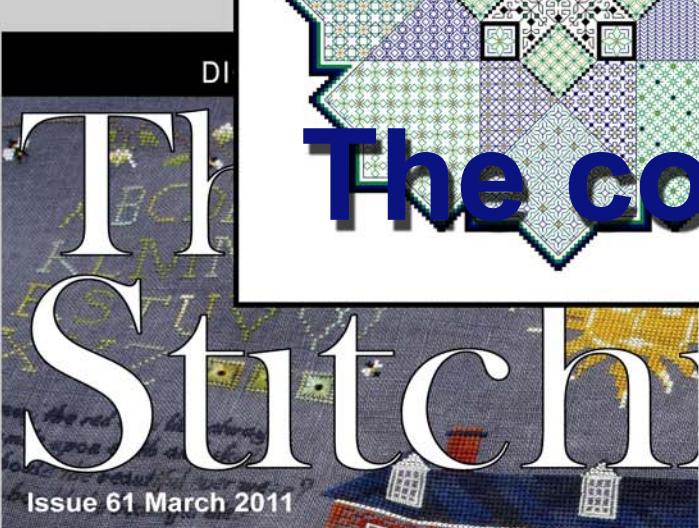
Blackwork Journey Blog

April 2012

Reader's success



The cost of piracy...



New designs



FRENCH DESIGNER MARIE LE GOUIS
WWW.THEGIFTOFSTITCHING.COM

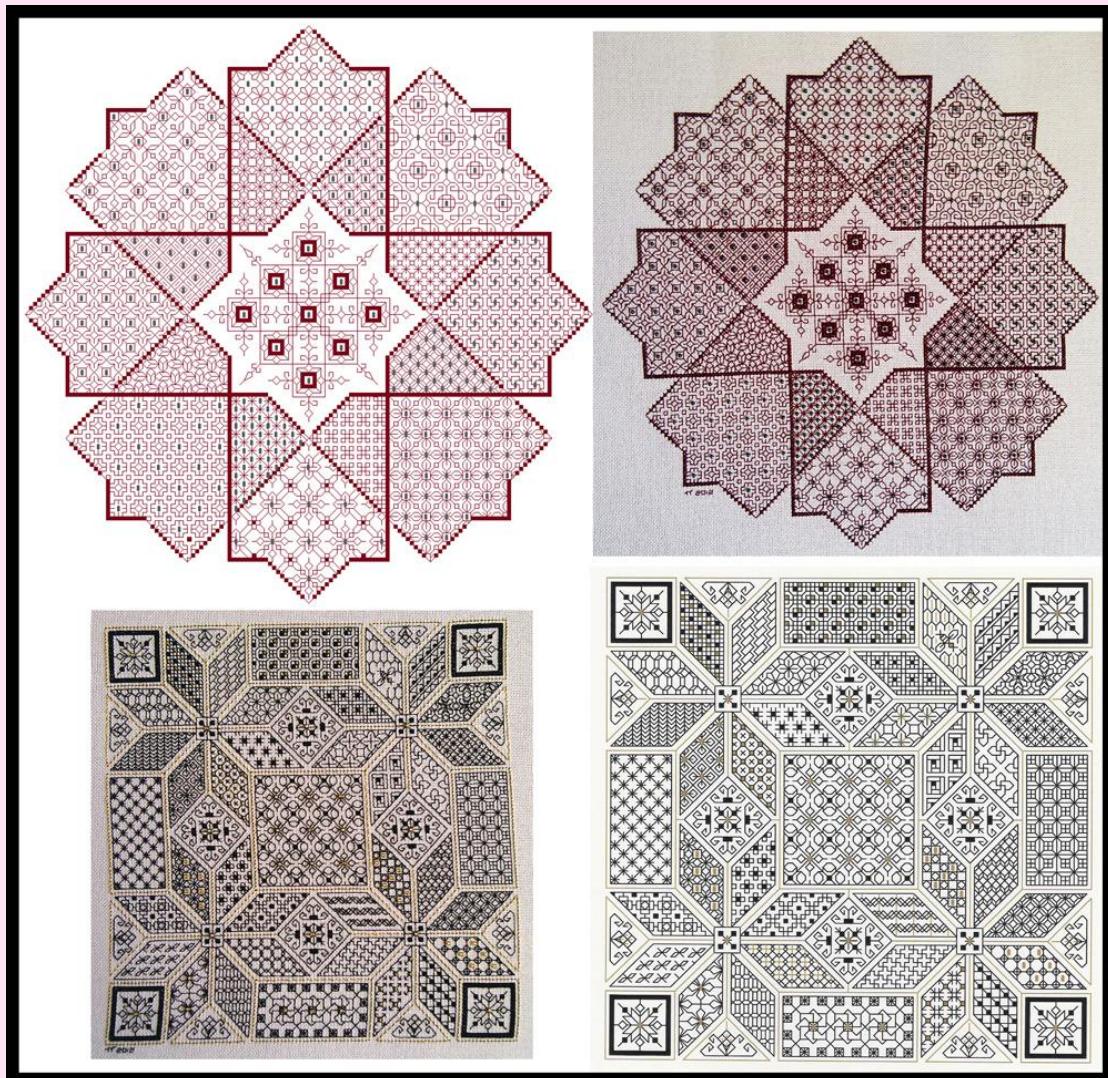
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April 2012

Showing embroidery charts on a web site to their best effect can be difficult, especially when using line designs in blackwork. For example, is it easier to display a finished piece of embroidery or just the details on a chart?

Take for example, two of my designs that Tannis from Ontario, Canada has recently completed as these enable a comparison to be made between a chart display from a pdf and the pdf the viewer would see.

First, a new one called CH0277 Bead Challenge which is not yet on my site and CH0053 'Wandering Star'. The embroideries are beautifully stitched and the beadwork and gold threads are very attractive. She has also named and dated her work, so that one hundred years from now someone will look at the work and know when it was completed.



Choice

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As you can see, the stitch detail shows up clearly in the chart, but there is not the same depth of colour as in the embroideries. This is why my 'Readers Gallery' plays such an important role because viewers can see actual stitched pieces. In my Blog of April 2011, I included a pdf called "Chart to Design" and if you like to look back to that, you will be able to see how varied one piece of work can be when stitched by a group of embroiderers!

Nevertheless, it is a real pleasure to see my designs enjoyed by other people and especially when I receive e-mails such as this one from Jenni in Australia earlier in the month;

Show success

Dear Elizabeth,

Royal Canberra Show

Canberra has just held its annual Royal Show and I entered your 'Star Challenge' and 'Blackwork Garden' embroideries.

I was thrilled to be awarded Second Prize for 'Star Challenge' and a Highly Commended for 'Blackwork Garden'. I've attached photos for your Gallery."



Jenni's Success

Thanks to Tanni and Jenni for their hard work and for allowing me to share them with you.
(CH0186 Midnight Garden, CH0070 Star Challenge)

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The real effects of copyright theft

As a designer, I create the designs that appeal to me and am naturally delighted when other people are attracted to them as well.

We work in a very difficult environment where copyright theft is a continual problem and a number of very well established magazines and web sites have been forced to close because they can no longer cope with the situation. We are all losers when this happens. Our choice becomes more restricted and our designers become discouraged.

I received an e-mail from "The Gift of Stitching" magazine earlier this week which brings home very forcefully the full effects of piracy.



Protect your designers and magazines or lose them!

"We have decided that it is time to stop publishing "The Gift of Stitching" magazine. This has not been an easy decision to make. Over the past two years we have tried to do all we can to continue, but now it is no longer viable. The current economic situation combined with the rampant piracy online has really affected sales..."

I am deeply sorry that an internet magazine which reached out to so many people and whose Editor tried so hard to make a difference has become another casualty! For designers this is one less showcase for our work, for the Editor, her staff and family this is a tragedy.

A web site is much more than just an entry on the internet. It represents hours of research, designing, checking that everything works and that the pages move effortlessly within the site. In my case it is a personal statement about an aspect of needlework I care deeply about and would like other people to enjoy. The Techniques section is designed to help people make informed choices about the materials and equipment they use. It cannot answer all questions but it can be used to raise awareness.

I have recently added a Cross Stitch section and over the next few months will add in a number of different aspects of embroidery which have appealed to me over many years, especially whitework and calligraphy. Different techniques need not work in isolation. They can unite together adding different dimensions to the subject we know of as "Embroidery".

Happy stitching!

Liz