

“Sylvan Scroll”

#OSV 446 54" x 88" — Pearl K. McGown

Submitted by Peggy Hannum, PA

Photo on Page 104

I needed to plan my Maryland Shores Rug School week with Nancy Blood as my teacher, and as often happens, I had been busy with my classes and had not given much thought to which pattern I wanted to work on. I started by looking through some of Pearl McGown's books as I love the old patterns and came across a black and white photograph of a large rug which had very large scrolls. I like scrolls and I like large rugs, so this fit the bill.

I ordered the rug from Cushing on fine linen, and sent it off to Nancy to color plan. As usual she did not disappoint. We have worked together for years at rug schools and Nancy has used different dyebook authors for different rugs. This year she suggested Jeanie Stewart's "Heather Hues," a bit out of my usual "dramatic" colors—especially red—which I gravitate to. Haven't met a red I don't love! "Heather Hues" sounded a bit soft and "pastelly," but, why not? "Sylvan Scroll" is a very different and softer palette, but a very successful one against a dark purplish background. It was worked with a 4-cut on linen.

I needed to pull out the old larger frame to hook this one as the scrolls are about 2 feet long and needed to be worked in one whole piece. With a 4-cut, it went very fast. You do one scroll and you have done a very big piece of the rug! Working with 8-value swatches that are two feet long (double the usual length and double the dyes) made things easy as well. Start at the vein with value 8 and just work on out to the edges!

This "out of my color box" or my "but, why not" rug turned out to be very well received. It hung in the Quilt Museum of Lancaster County's store for a year as part of their permanent display and will be featured this spring and summer along with several of my other rugs in a downtown Lancaster display window as part of the Lancaster County Planning Commission's 13 designated Lancaster County Heritage Crafts and craftsman.

Formulas — using Cushing dyes

Background = over 1 yard of Woolrich Mona Gray 906 — ABRASH method

1/2 Cardinal + 1/2 Dark Green + 1/2 Royal Blue

Then, in a pot, ABRASH again with 1 teaspoon each dye; it needs to be dark.

Jeanie Stewart "Heather Hues" over Dorr 8218 — double dyes for 24" long swatches

Old Brick Red = 1/4 Taupe + 1/8 Turkey Red + 1/16 Orange

Quiet Cherry = 1/16 Taupe + 1/16 Seal Brown + 1/8 Cherry

Pale Pear Yellow = 1/16 Taupe + 1/8 Yellow

Antique Yellow Green = 1/8 Taupe + 1/8 Yellow + 1/16 Mint + 1/16 Seal Brown

Soft Blue Green = 1/8 Taupe + 1/8 Blue + 1/16 Yellow

Rusty Apricot = 1/16 Taupe + 1/8 Rose + 1/4 Gold

Mauve Pink = 1/8 Taupe + 1/8 Rose

Butterscotch = $\frac{1}{8}$ Taupe + $\frac{1}{4}$ Gold + $\frac{1}{16}$ Orange

Pretty Green = $\frac{1}{8}$ Taupe + $\frac{1}{16}$ Yellow + $\frac{1}{4}$ Mint

Grayed Blue = $\frac{1}{4}$ Taupe + $\frac{1}{8}$ Blue

Shy Purple = $\frac{1}{8}$ Taupe + $\frac{1}{8}$ Blue + $\frac{1}{4}$ Rose + $\frac{1}{16}$ Seal Brown

Golden Brown = $\frac{1}{8}$ Taupe + $\frac{1}{8}$ Seal Brown + $\frac{1}{8}$ Gold

Veins = Nancy's Color Beauties Spot 177 "Heather" over 1 yard of Dorr 8218

$\frac{1}{8}$ Taupe

$\frac{1}{4}$ Blue

$\frac{3}{8}$ Rose

$\frac{1}{4}$ Orange

$\frac{3}{4}$ Mint

$\frac{1}{2}$ Yellow