

Honorable Mentions



Wendy Chasar, embroidery artist at WildNESS, a digitizing embroidery company, was inspired to create this pillow from a print she had in an Art Nouveau archive. "This was an easy choice for me as I have been interested in the Art Nouveau style since art school," she says. Alfons M. Mucha, whose style has been imitated in paintings, jewelry, carpet and wall coverings, created the original work.

She says this was a "pretty basic digitizing job as far as techniques." The stitches are mostly beans, single runs and satins, and the whole work is about 56,000 stitches. Chasar worked on an older Tajima TMEX-C1501, and says it took three sew-outs to reach her final thread choices and stitch densities. "Most of the labor was post-embroidery," Chasar says, since the bead accents on the pillow were hand sewn and the double-ribbon "frame" was adhered by heat and also hand sewn with beads.

The muted, pastel colors were inspired by Mucha's original design. The threads Chasar used were rayon, with two different metallic threads mixed in. To incorporate the copper metallic thread, she actually had to wind the thread around a bobbin.