

Fiona Macintyre, *Loose Threads*

Discipline: Fashion and Textile

In my design I strive to honour the traditional materials and techniques of women textile artists. *Loose Threads* draws inspiration from Indigenous and European cultural approaches of adornment.

The overall form of the candlestick is reminiscent of an hourglass shape; the feminine ideal of colonial Canada such as the cinched waist and flowing skirt of Victorian times. The idea for a 'skirt' fabricated from heritage silver spoons is derived from examples of Inuit women's amauti (parkas) in the 19th century. Inuit women incorporated various materials obtained from trade with non-indigenous peoples into their clothing designs, in some cases silver cutlery. To create the stiff collar for the candlestick, I have mimicked Victorian tatting and lace designs used to embellish clothing. These elements are 'cross stitched' to represent our interwoven lives as Canadians.