Christy Barron, 1832

A Sampler Reproduction

First, many thanks to my friend, Rita, for her loan of this wonderful sampler! As soon as I spotted it at our local frame shop I knew it needed to be shared. The verse, the colors, the very fully stitched linen...well, I cannot decide what I like best about it!

The original sampler is worked on an uneven linen which is approximately 28-29 threads per inch across the width and 34 threads per inch along the length. Thus, the original is more square - measuring 16.5" wide x 15.75" high - than the reproduction.

I was not able locate a Christy Barron (or Christina, Christine, etc.) in online searches so don't have any historical facts about her. However, Christy clearly notes that she is eleven years of age, and has dated her sampler 1832. This is a faithful reproduction of the original, with only very minor adjustments made for ease of counting and stitching.

The verse is so lovely and is from a hymn text written about 1712 by Joseph Addison (1672-1719). The sampler highlights the first of four verses; the hymn is often found titled *The Good Shepherd* in various hymnals.

The remainder of the sampler is nicely balanced and appears mostly symmetrical - but as you work through it, you will see small variations in the symmetry - sometimes in placement of the motifs, but often in the colors chosen for the various elements. I like that these changes add additional visual interest to the overall piece.

The sampler is worked entirely in cross stitches over two threads. I selected *37 count "Corn Tassel" Legacy linen* which results in a more rectangular shape than the antique, finishing approximately 13.2" wide x 14.5" high. NOTE: if you select a different linen, be sure to allow for enough contrast with the lightest colors in this reproduction (DMC 3865 and 422).

Stitch Count: 243 wide x 268 high

14/28 count: 17.4" x 19.1" 16/32 count: 17.4 x 16.8" 18/36 count: 13.5" x 14.9" 20/40 count: 12.2" x 13.4"

The wonderful motifs in Christy's sampler beg for more - watch for smalls, coming soon!



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Weeks Dye Works:

- \equiv Cayenne 2259 (304)
- Chestnut 1269 (3781)
- Clockwork 2230 (720)
- × Jay Bird 2110 (931/932)
- * Lily Pad 2194 *3 skeins* (3011/3051)
- Louisiana Hot Sauce 2266a *2 skeins* (349/817)
- ✓ Oscar 2197 (732)
- ◆ Palomino 1232 (610/829)
- ♥ Schneckley 1223 (831/832)
- **►** Straw 1121 (437/738)

This reproduction is worked using one ply of the cotton floss over two threads of 37-count linen for all stitching.

The *quantities* noted in the color key are based on the floss and linen used in this model.

If you are working on a different count linen, you will need to make the appropriate adjustments.

DMC:

- □ 422
- 0 3865

If you choose to make color conversions or other changes, suggested DMC alternatives are shown in parentheses. These are only suggestions; I encourage you to make your own color/dye-lot selections with the entire color palette and fabric selection in mind.

As noted earlier, the entire sampler is worked in cross stitches over two threads of the linen.

Although the border is very consistent and regular, count carefully at the corners, as each one is different.

RESOURCES:

Access Commodities at www.accesscommodities.com Weeks Dye Works at www.weeksdyeworks.com



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