

50 Women



Macramé Workshops

Once back in the UK and referring to her research, Rachel began her **50 Women** project to bring attention to the often unheard stories of women on the Mayflower voyage.

She also relates her family's roots as weavers with the native Wampanoag people who created weavings that chronicled their own milestones and historic events: two distinct groups with no obvious connection, but who were similarly experienced in storytelling through textiles.

Approximately 100 women living in the Pilgrim Roots area attended workshops to weave macramé panels. The macramé workshops inspired women to join Rachel in her mission to create an historically accurate Tudor gown that was covered in intricate hand knotted panels.

The Pilgrim Woman Sculpture

The completed gown was modelled by Rachel and captured using a digital technology known as Photogrammetry. The Photogrammetry process enabled Rachel's gown to be transferred into a computer program, and then to become a 3D printed sculpture. The Pilgrim Woman sculpture will be cast in bronze using the traditional lost-wax-technique. A sculpture will be sited in Austerfield, birthplace of pilgrim William Bradford.

You will see in the photograph that Rachel is holding an apple. This is a new unregistered variety cultivated from a pip by horticulturist and BBC Radio correspondent John Stirland, who has called it 'Pilgrim 400'. The first tree was officially planted at the Notts village of Scrooby in September 2019, the village at the very heart of the Mayflower story.



Inspire: Culture, Learning & Libraries is delighted to be part of the Mayflower 400 anniversary. For more information go to inspireculture.org.uk/mayflower

To follow Rachel's ongoing Mayflower 400 work, visit rachelcarter.co.uk

