



DONATED SILK SCARF

Mavis Paskulich lives in the Perth Hills, Western Australia. Born Mavis Baker in the 1940s on the old St Anns Valley, Nottingham she migrated to Australia in 1969.

On taking retirement in 2010 she expanded her artistic endeavours (including watercolours and pastels) to working with silk and dyes to create wearable art (scarves) and paintings. Her individually designed silk scarves are sold through the Zig Zag Gallery in Kalamunda Western Australia

Although the technique is called 'painting' the colours are actually specific dyes which penetrate the silk fibres, helping the textile retain its characteristic sheen. Silk paints would coat the surface and drastically alter the feel of the fabric and so are not used by Mavis for wearable art.

The scarf donated to the auction is of 100% silk satin, length 160cm. Dyes are applied on dampened silk. When the initial design is in place, salt crystals are placed strategically on the silk and allowed to dry. The salt enables movement of the dye to form subtle or dramatic blends of colours. When dry, the salt is removed and the item steamed in order to fix the colours.

Finally the scarf is washed and ironed – ready for wear.

