

Entry # 14, Rosemarie Ionker, “Quinceañera”



Bio

What others do with clay or oils, Rosemarie Ionker does with fabric. She and her daughter Claudia have a company, Boneka that designs and dresses dolls. Rosemarie started making her own clothes when she was 10 years old, because she did not like hand-me-downs. When she was 16, she entered a 3-year program at the School of Fashion in Hamburg, Germany. Upon graduating she spent a short time studying dress design and industrial production styles at the Art School in Cologne before embarking on a new venture, opening her own boutique. The years later, she decided to do a Master's in High Fashion Dressmaking. She joined the Dressmakers Guild and was soon participating in fashion shows in Hamburg, Frankfurt and Berlin. In 1995, Rosemarie's daughter, Claudia started the company Boneka Doll Fashions. A meeting with Helen Kish at Nuremberg introduced Rosemarie to Toy Fair in New York City and through Helen, Rosemarie became known to the North American market. Rosemarie has written three books on costuming dolls.

Poem

It's a time for celebration
Let's sing and dance and feast
Our sweet child Quinceañera
Begins her journey into adulthood

Outfit

Quinceañera, is the celebration of a girl's fifteenth birthday in parts of Latin America and elsewhere in communities of immigrants from Latin America. This birthday is celebrated differently from any other birthday, as it marks the transition from childhood to young womanhood.

