Jessie Willcox Smith was among the most gifted American artists of her time. She was born in Philadelphia and originally studied to be a kindergarden teacher. Jessie developed a talent for drawing, and at the age of 20 attended the School of Design for Women. She later studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts under Thomas Eakins, graduating in 1888. She

> began working in the production department of the Ladies Home Journal in 1889 before leaving to take classes under Howard Pyle, first at Drexel and then at the Bradywine School.

> Ms. Smith was only ten years younger than her teacher and one of his oldest students. She was soon joined in the class by Elizabeth

Shippen Green and Violet Oakley, and the three became life-long friends.

Jessie took to heart Howard Pyle's rule of studying a particular subject in depth and painting what one knows best to bring the subject alive. Quite early, she settled on the world of the child, and did so with great sensitivity and tenderness.

Jessie was a prolific illustrator whose paintings influenced the appreciation and acknowledgement of children in American popular culture through her

sympathetic portrayals. Her paintings and illustrations are among the most collectible in the market today.

IWS_0004a - Rolling Dough

We have seven Jessie Willcox Smith sets of children for sale and will add others as time permits. These iconic images are classic and remain some of the finest works of American art ever produced.



The four images on this page are from different Jessie Willcox Smith sets. The top image on the left shows a young girl rolling pie dough. This is from JWS Set 4 - Young Girls Working. The bottom image on the left is from JWS Set 6 - Toddlers. A young child is feeding a kitten milk in a bowl. The top image on the right is from JWS Set 5 - Mother and Children

Reading. A mother is sitting on the beach with her daughter and

son reading a book. The bottom image on the right shows a young girl making a watercolor painting in a scrapbook. This is from JWS Set 7 - Girls Pastimes. The images from these sets are illustrations from vintage books and magazines.

Jessie Willcox Smith's illustrations are collected as much for adults' nostalgia as for the relevance to children. Her images tend to depict quintessential moments of childhood. The focus and inspiration of her work was children. It is surprising to

JWS_0006a - Child and Kitten note that she never had any children of her own. She was the first woman inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Society of Illustrators. All of Jessie Willcox Smith's sets can be seen on our web site.



Fabric Postcards

The two images below are the front and back of our new fabric postcard. Each set of two will contain a pattern and a list of necessary components to make a quilted postcard. The finished postcard can be sent through the mail with a personalized message. The postcard will have to be hand cancelled to be mailed.

The outside dimension of the quilted postcard is 4x6 inches. The back side will have a space for the message and address.



SNT_0006b - Front and Back Fabric PC

Fabric postcards are unique and collectible. They make nice gifts and can be used as ornaments. Customers can choose any single image for the front side of their fabric postcards. The back side will be a screened down sepia print with a caption.

This spring we will be introducing four new patterns to use with our quilt blocks. The new patterns are a fabric postcard (see page 2), die cuts and paper dolls (see page 1), Christmas ornaments (see below), and table runners (see below). All of our patterns are available as PDF files that can be downloaded for free from our web site.

We will be adding more quilt block sets and singles to our inventory in 2013. These will include die cuts and paper dolls, a new American flag set, children sets, animal and bird sets, Thanksgiving sets, victorian women sets, more holiday sets, and a new category of period fashions. We will also be adding several new single quilt blocks.

We are working to develop more State and City sets and hope to have at least one set for every state by the May Spring Market in Portland.

If we don't have a set of four of your state we will have single images that can be ordered as 8x12 quilt blocks with a pattern for a wall hanging or a 4x6 fabric postcard.

We will customize quilt blocks for your shop or special event. This includes shop hops. If you are in a shop hop we would be glad to work with



you to develop unique quilt blocks for your use. Our quilt blocks were used in the 2012 Montana State Shop Hop and were very successful.

Let us know if you or your customers have a request for

any particular subject matter or location. We are a small company with a focus on quality and personal service and would be glad to work with you to accomodate your requests.



AUSTIN TEXAS STATE GAPITOL 1935 BLUE BONNET TEXAS STATE FLOWER aTX0003b - Texas Bluebonnets

SHOP HOPS

We will be introducing a new collection of antique paper dolls and die cuts in 2013. These will come with a pattern to construct a free-standing 3-D model such as a Teddy Bear, Dolls or a Christmas Tree.

Paper dolls date back to the 1700s. We recently acquired a collection of turn-of-the-century paper dolls from England and will be offering these on cloth for quilters. These will be offered for sale in sets and as single quilt blocks.

One of the most collectible images from the early 20th century is the Teddy Bear. This early die cut dates circa 1910 and will come with a pattern to make a 3-D model that would be free standing. The model can be propped up by attaching a dowl to the back.

2013 Show Schedule

- Portland, OR March 10-13 National Parks Market (APPL)
- Portland, OR May 17-19 International Quilt Market
- Houston, TX October 26-28 International Quilt Market

- American Quilt Blocks
- Susan and Jack Davis
- Bozeman, MT 59715
- wonderland@montana.com
- AmericanQuiltBlocks.com
- Tel: 406-587-0937

American Quilt Blocks

Newsletter - Vol. 1, No. 1 - January 2013



We have changed our name to American Quilt Blocks to better define our business of printing on cloth.

Susan and I established Olde America Antiques in 1988 as an antique postcard and ephemera business. We operated an antique paper shop in our hometown of Bozeman, Montana from 1990 to 2005.

Our business evolved over time into a fine art printing company. Printing on paper was our primary occupation from 1998 until 2006, when we began to print on cloth. We were among the first to develop and improve 8-color giclee printing on cloth.

Giclee printing on cloth is a recent development that uses new inkjet technology and archival inks to produce detailed, accurate images and artwork.

We have more than 600 quilt block sets for sale and will be adding more as time permits. Please let us know if you have any requests for specific topics or locations. We are happy to work with you to develop quilt blocks for your individual shop.

Tom Murphy Photography

We are excited to anounce a new wildlife collection. Tom Murphy is an international wildlife photographer based near Yellowstone Park. We have printed his photographs on fine-art paper for years. We are now offering his photos on cloth for the first time.

Tom's photographs will be available in several formats, including wall hanging sets, tote bag sets, table runners,



fabric postcards, and ornaments. His wildlife sets will contain animals such as moose, black bears, grizzly bears, polar bears, bison, elk, wolves, eagles, swans, penguins, owls, and small and baby animals.

Paper Dolls and Die Cuts

We are introducing a new collection of die cut images and antique paper dolls in 2013. These collectible quilt blocks will come with a pattern to construct a free standing 3-D model such as Teddy Bears, Paper Dolls (with different outfits and dresses), Santas, Angels, or Christmas Trees, for example.



These 8x12 quilt blocks will include two free patterns, one for a 3-D model and one for a wall hanging.

The "Teddy Bear" at left is an American icon that dates from the early 20th century. The die cuts we have date 1880s-1910s. The Paper Dolls were printed in England. The Santas and Christmas Trees were printed in Germany. The Teddy Bear is currently available for sale. Other die cuts will be available for sale in 2013 as time permits.