

# 3D Arpillera Art Quilt Tradition



## Arpilleras (ar-pee-ye-ras)

Arpillera textile art playfully merges the spirit of upcycling with genuine creativity and innate talent! Twenty top Peruvian artists create these one-of-a-kind, vibrant 3D landscapes from scratch.

The Peruvian Arpillera Folk Art tradition began in the 1970s when social upheaval forced entire Andean communities to migrate to the outskirts of Lima, the capital, looking for safety and a better life. After leaving behind their land, homes, crops and animals, families were forced to start over.

With a strong sense of tradition, creativity and skillful hands, these women from displaced communities soon learned new skills from missionaries and so the Peruvian arpilleras were born.

Initially, this art form gave them an outlet for self-expression that kept them connected to their land through traditional arpilleras depicting Andean scenes, celebrations and religious folklore. Today, a second generation of arpillera artists is re-inventing this folk art tradition. Lucuma Designs has been nurturing a select group of artists since 1998 by providing new ideas for an ever-demanding world market. This partnership has elevated the quality of this art form to new levels for the enjoyment of a growing number of international collectors.

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