



PAULSON BOTT
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Mary Lee Bendolph in the Paulson Bott Press studio. Courtesy of Matt Arnett.

PATCH, 2014

Color softground etching with aquatint and spitbite aquatint.
Image: 38" x 53.5"; Edition of 50

DESIGN: MICHAEL OSBORNE DESIGN

New Year over with—back to piecing and quilting. Piece by yourself; quilt together.

When you go to quilt, you beat the cotton out on the floor, first thing, to get the dust out. Then sweep the floor—collect the cotton—spread the lining out and put the cotton back on the lining, beat it out, put the top on there, get your thread and needles and hook

it in the quilting frame. Most of the families down here did the same thing—piece by theirselves and come together to quilt. On my side, my family, we go fast, don't follow no patterns so close. Other families take more time, do slow work. They don't get out in the road much like us did. We just try to put it together and get it through with. We don't try to

style it or nothing. Folks call some of this kind of stuff "crazy quilts"—don't know which-a-way it going. I never did go by a pattern. Didn't none us. I mostly take after my aunt Louella, but I never make a quilt altogether like anybody. I watched Mama back when she could work, but she was slow and careful more than me.