

Odyssey Visual Diaries

On completion of the first Odyssey quilt, Frances Larder encouraged the Dutch quilters to write their stories, which were then expressed visually into a 'visual diary'. The general consensus at the time was that memories of war, occupation and internment were too painful and emotional to remember and that they would only portray their favourite images and memories of an innocent era.

Thus, in the following selection of visual diaries, you will see early memories of pre-war life in Java, Borneo and Holland, followed by a rich assortment of their first impressions of Australia, mostly in the 1950s.



Source of exhibition in this format:
<http://www.daaag.org/>

Note that all images are the copyright of the individual artists and/or their immediate families.

LEFT: The cover that Frances Larder created for the visual diaries.

The visual diary of INNEKE MCINTOSH-EICHHOLTZ portrays her dreams of a childhood spent in Perjalanan, Java in the 1930s ©



GERARDA BAREMAN'S impressions of her homeland in Holland, prior to WW11.©



WILHELMINA DE BREY'S visual diary of life in Borneo prior to the Japanese occupation in the early 1940s ©



VERA RADO'S visual diary featuring memories of starting a new life in Australia following the Japanese Occupation of Java, 1942–1945 ©



FRANCES LARDER'S visual diary of the Nerada Tea Plantation, Northern Queensland, early 1950s ©

