



**STAR SPECTRA**  
by Liz Payne

Dimensions: 550mm x 615mm,  
Materials: Hand embroidered threads, cotton, beads & sequins on cotton

Artist statement:

For centuries looking up to the stars has been used as a method to predict, navigate, understand and explain the past, future and forces of nature across many different cultures. The parallel similarities of a shared curiosity and appreciation of the stars serves as a reminder of the interconnectedness between people that transcends cultural boundaries and fosters a sense of unity - a common thread connecting us all.

Ask anyone to draw a star and they will draw it differently. When Barnardos approached me to take part in a charity auction, I was inspired to collaborate with some of the children that Barnardos support.

To me, the theme Fearlessly Optimistic is to have strength, resilience and positivity whilst still being true to yourself. Stars are often depicted in my work and I am drawn to them due to their universal connection and representation of life, strength and hope.

Each child was asked to draw me a star and the stars came back in all shapes and sizes, they could be round or pointy, filled with patterns or even dotted with finger tips - each one as unique as the stars in the sky itself, and each one of us below them.