



When Frau Rupp, a Chiemgau peasant-woman began to make patchwork pictures out of odds and ends of material, pieces of brightly coloured ribbon, threads and scraps of lace, she had already completed her 69th year and could look back on a long life spent in hard persevering work. And now in still quiet hours of leisure and contemplation she formed strange visionary shapes out of her pieces of cloth. She had never seen a town of any size; she had never heard of art. What she created was but the spontaneous expression of her longing to give tangible shape to the figures of her inner vision. Her skilful fingers almost unconsciously fashioned these colourful pictures in appliqué work, depicting her conception of angels, saints, animals and flowers. On her death it was found she had made one hundred of these patchwork pictures a selection of which was exhibited in the Günter Franke Cabinet of Graphic Art in Munich. These patchwork pictures that had their origin in the naïve, visionary world of a simple peasant's heart testify to the true artist's urge to create which springs from Nature and his native soil.

Translated by Flora Salmond-Volkmann