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John “Jack” M. Walsh III Biography

John "Jack" M. Walsh III is a licensed professional engineer whose life's work is making water safe to use. Walsh's interest in water is personal and professional having grown up on the shore of Lake Michigan and now living beside a glen. Water is the subject of several works Walsh has commissioned. In 1988 on business in England, Walsh became interested in collecting quilts when he saw Michael James' work on TV. This interest increased in 1992 when Walsh attended Louisville Celebrates the American Quilt. There he met Robert and Ardis James who introduced him to Penny McMorris. Walsh credits McMorris with training him in the world of art quilts, having the original vision of what his collection would become, and continuing to be his mentor. Solo exhibitions of Walsh's collection have been held at several major museums. His collection has been featured in *American Craft*, *Art & Antiques*, *SAQA Journal*, *Forbes' Collector* and several books. Walsh is a board member of Studio Art Quilt Associates, Inc., the International Quilt Study Center, Friends of Fiber Art International and other organizations. On four different occasions he has been listed in the annual 100 Top Collectors Issue of *Art & Antiques Magazine*.