19th Century Tapestry

Most 19th Century tapestries are actually reproductions of famous paintings or previously woven designs. Due to the Industrial Revolution, there was a move to make tapestries affordable to the middle class working person. This shift was accelerated by the Arts and Crafts movement.

20th Century Tapestry

The first half of the 20th Century saw a decrease in the production of tapestries due to the hardships brought about by World War I. Around the middle of the century, tapestry started to make a reappearance, and the works produced started to become more abstract. In 1962, the first international tapestry exhibition was staged at Lausanne, Switzerland. This became a biennial event after 1965. Tapestry started to become more and more mainstream with the use of powered looms and fibers manufactured with machines. One of the famous artworks of this time was a recreation of the 14th Century masterpiece “Tapestries of the Apocalypse.”