

At Play in the Garden of Stitch

Using stitch in artwork begins with an expressive line. Loosen up and explore new territory with line and stitch in this free-motion quilting workshop. Learn to focus on the character of line and personal symbols through simple drawing and stitching exercises:

- **First we make a mess.** Begin to see that line is active and reactive.
- **Embrace the wonky.** Learn to make the most of whatever occurs by joining ideas to line motifs and see what develops.
- **Think in thread.** Translate visual stimuli into pathways by stitching in continuous line.
- **Chart a new path.** Recognize alternative solutions by using composition to navigate new pathways.
- **Walk the walk.** We ask the questions: What did I see today? What inspired me today? What have I learned today?

Participants will accumulate a toolbox of techniques for seeing, interpreting and completing concept-driven work. With a focus on generating ideas through research and observation, build your stitching vocabulary and trust the thread to tell your story.

Open to all skill levels, free-motion quilting experience a plus but not necessary.

STUDIO EQUIPMENT NEEDED

- 25 sheet pad of 14x17 Acetate
- Paper for quick drawing studies
- Dry Erase board or chalkboard
- Sewing machines with the ability to do free-motion quilting for students who don't bring machines.
- Iron and Ironing board
- Straight edge ruler
- Somewhere to pin samples up - a cork bulletin board, or felt board for each student or one large board we can share.

Participant materials list

Sewing machine with the ability to do free-motion quilting (double check that you have a free-motion foot that works)

Fabric and batting

Please pre-wash and cut into 14" x 14" squares

- 1.5 yards of Black Kona cotton fabric
- 1.5 yards of Ivory or Bone or White Kona cotton fabric
- 3 yards of backing fabric (your choice)
- 14" x 14" squares of batting for each pair of fabric squares (any kind is fine but you may want to experiment with several kinds.)

Thread

Your favorite brand of quilting thread in black, white or natural and one spool of variegated black to white, (*I prefer YLI brand 100% Long staple cotton ,TEX 40 or Aurafil Mako 40 wt cotton thread*)

3 bobbins pre-wound with black, white and variegated threads

Needles for your machine

I use 90/14 or 100/16 needles with 40 wt threads.

You can also try Topstitch needles.

Notions

- Chalk marker (rotary wheel type) - white
- Hera Marker
- Utility Scissors for cutting threads
- Rotary cutter

Office supplies

- Journal, legal pad or diary to keep notes
- One fine tip *dry erase* marker in black
- 2 Pilot Precise V5 pens in black
- A way to capture images: digital camera, computer tablet, smartphone.
- Your ideas and patience.

If you have any additional questions about this class, below is the contact info for your instructor:

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