

LENGTH: 5 days

LEVEL: Intermediate to advanced

ZIG-ZAG MACHINE: required

DESCRIPTION: In this class students will use **nature as a starting point** in their study of the magic of **color** as they discover the varieties and ever-changing palettes of the natural world. Using nature as a source of inspiration, students will investigate the range and qualities of features like rich earth browns, cool air and water blues and greens, and blazing hot fire colors.

The class will begin with a general interactive discussion on color theory and how this applies to color in nature. After viewing slides and other visual material, students will make a series of small abstract studies based on the visual material they have seen. They will then make their own abstract color-rich quilt tops. Piecing and stitching techniques will be demonstrated and discussed where needed.

Emphasis in this class will be on **color variation and choice, contrasts and subtlety, tonal value, texture and pattern.**

By the end of the class students will have heightened their color sensitivity, learnt how to choose appropriate fabrics that best enhance their color choice, and will have made several small studies suitable for development, and at least one larger piece.

Short discussions and critique sessions form an integral part of the class dynamic.

SUPPLY LIST:

Sewing machine, cleaned, oiled and in good working order. Bring manual and knee lift if you have one.

Extension cord with appropriate adaptor/multiplug

Normal feet for your machine.

Optional: embroidery or other specialized feet.

Machine needles. Choose according to your fabric. Universal (Schmetz 80) for cotton fabric, 90 for heavier fabric, 60 for silk or thin fabric

Optional: specialized needles e.g. metallica, embroidery, etc

Thread: neutral sewing thread of your choice. **Optional:** specialist threads e.g., metallic, embroidery or heavy thread.

Pins

Rotary cutter with sharp blade

Cutting mat

Plastic rulers of your choice

Glue stick

Notebook/Journal with your choice of writing materials

Optional: Tracing paper, appliqué paper, stabilizer of your choice,

Books or pictures as discussed below

FABRICS: A variety of fabrics in a wide range of warm and cool colors that include primary, secondary and tertiary colors of your choice in hand-dyed and commercial fabrics, In solid colors, subtle and/or strong textural prints, tone-on-tone prints.

Make sure you have a good range of lights, mediums and darks. Include neutrals, related colors and contrasts. 100% cotton is advisable but you may choose to bring some specialist fabrics like silks or sheers that might add subtle differences and enhance how a color is perceived.

Remember the greater the choice you have, the more exciting the possibilities for your work!

PREPARATION:

In this class we will be looking at **color**, so spend time looking at the color details in the world around you e.g. in rocks, stones, tree trunks, shells, leaves with their thorns and veins, the sky at different times of the day, etc. Collect images from books and magazines that please you, and bring these to class .See if you can find the colors in your fabric stash.

Become obsessed with COLOR!

TEACHER WILL BRING: color wheel
a black paper keyhole for each student,
a large variety of visual material

CLASS FEE: no extra class fee