

SKIN DEEP: TRANSPARENCY AND LAYERING

Put new subtlety and variety into your work using transparency and layering. Discover how to use a range of sheers such as organza, voile, tulle and net to create mystery and depth in your work. Learn how to make successful use of raw edges, seams, creases and grooves to create see-through richness. Enhance your technique skills with unusual fabrics, and have the option of adding various papers to create a mixed media work. Add layered subtlety with carefully chosen threads, stitched by machine or hand or both to make a richly textured and elegant composition.

Supply List

Basic sewing supplies including

- Pins, cutting mat ; plastic rulers of your choice.
- Rotary cutter with a sharp blade for fabric and one suitable for paper.
- Scissors for paper and for fabric
- Fabric and paper marking tools of your choice (pens, pencils, chalk etc.)

You may choose to work by hand or machine or both. Choose from the supply list accordingly.

Machine:

- Sewing machine, cleaned, oiled and in good working order. Bring your manual and knee lift if you have one.
- Normal sewing feet.,(Optional: ¼” ,open toed embroidery foot, or cording foot)
- Needles;; finer needle for seams. I use a 60. (Optional: larger needles that could make interesting holes in your fabric
- Thread: for machine work: a variety of threads in matching and contrasting colors. Remember your threads will show through your sheer fabrics which adds interest!

Hand:

- You could include metallics, for hand and machine work,
- a variety of threads such as stranded floss, perl cotton and rayon threads, and fine ribbon.
- A variety of needles for different weight threads.

Fabric:

1. A variety of sheer and translucent fabrics such as tulle netting (in colors of your choice but be sure to include black), organza, gauze, voile, cheese cloth....anything that is transparent or translucent that you can see light through.
2. A variety of solids and hand-dyed or patterned fabrics that you may layer over or under the sheers. Bring colors of your choice but include a range of values as well as black and white.You may use small pieces, fat quarters or larger pieces.
3. *Optional: a variety of papers that you can layer with your fabrics. These can include tissue paper, hand-made papers, brown or patterned wrapping paper, magazine prints, labels and metallic chocolate wrappers. Stitched or torn paper of any weight or color can add wonderful texture)*

4. *Optional Fusible of your choice.*
5. *You may find a table lamp useful and a cushion in case the chairs are a bit low.*

Preparation: Have fun investigating transparency in nature, constructions, art and craft, fashion, in magazines and on the internet. There is so much to discover! Find exciting images of layered, translucent and mixed media work that you have been delighted with and have them available in class if possible. Come ready to conceal and reveal!