

EARTH, WIND, AND FIRE

Use the nature and elements to fill your work with the richness and magic of color with its myriad varieties and ever-changing palettes. From this infinite source of inspiration, investigate the range and varying qualities of natural features that give us colors ranging from rich earth browns, cool air and water blue greens, and blazing hot fire colors.

After discussions, viewing slides and other visual materials you will make a series of small abstract color studies, before making your own color-rich quilt top. A variety of piecing, applique 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 eg metallica, embroidery, etc
- Thread: neutral sewing thread of your choice. **Optional:** specialist threads eg, 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!