

Workshop & Lecture: Fiddling with Fabric

Presented by: Margie Binker

Margie Binker has been affiliated with the Mendonoma Coast since the sixties when her Father, Snap Binker sold some of the first lots on The Sea Ranch and helped design and build the Binker Barn homes.

Her quilting career began in Gualala while she still lived in Silicon Valley. The first president of Pacific Piecemakers Quilt Guild, Naida Mauthe, her step mother, taught her, in a weekend, to make a very rudimentary log cabin design. It took her 10 years to finish it.

Then, having moved to the area, in classes at Gualala Arts and with the help of many local quilters, her fire was lit and she learned many skills and techniques. "Quilters are very generous people," reports Margie.

Her fascination with fabric manipulation came from watching Kalynn Oleson play with fabric in their shared studio in Gualala. Kalynn would sit in her special corner and fiddle and play and cuss and twist and come up with a fascinating scraps of texture and color that she would then add to her innovative projects. Margie would secretly try and duplicate what Kalynn was doing. (Shhh...don't tell Kalynn.) In 2015, Margie (now living in Reno) took a class at the Palm Springs Quilt Show from British quilt artist and fabric manipulator, Jenny Rayment. She was inspired to take the techniques taught by Jenny and expand them into a variety of projects. She is also inspired by Rami Kim, Colette Wolff and other who use fabric manipulation in their projects.

Margie never saw herself becoming a quilt teacher. But after many requests to show other quilters how to do fabric manipulation, she has now taught these techniques many times.

The Process:

Fabric Manipulation or fabric fiddling, as Jenny calls it, is lots of playing and a little sewing. It is a chance to challenge oneself with colors, textures and design combinations. Projects can be small or large. (See Projects). This is not a time to quickly put together a baby or donation quilt. It is a chance to touch, audition, rearrange, squint, press, iron and play. These are fun but not quick projects.

The class:

Our project for the class is a 25" square wall hanging. No wall space? How about a pillow? Or, how about putting 6 motifs together to make a full sized quilt. In the class, we can work with changing the configuration to create a project that will meet your needs.

We will begin the class auditioning colors. I ask you to bring in a variety of fabric colors that appeal to you. I have found that colors or patterns I thought would work don't appeal to me once the project is underway. I know this way of working can be uncomfortable for some people. But we will have fun with the project and everyone I have taught has been happy with their own results. AND each project is unique working in this organic fashion.

Travelling Trick Show

Quilters are sharing, caring people. We share our ideas, our perceptions, our resources, our skills and our tricks that help make the artistry we love easier.

The Travelling Trick Show is an interactive session amongst friends and co-quilters. We will share our favorite resources and techniques in a 30 to 40-minute discussion, in small groups and the large group, and give to each other the best ideas we have to offer.



Materials and tools needed:

Fabric:

Background to motif – 1 yd

Pleated trim – ½ yd WOF (width of fabric)

Motif petals and binding – ½ y

Inserts - fat quarter or ¼ yd

batting and fabric for backing (28" sq approx.)

(feel free to bring several fabric fat quarters to audition and explore.

These projects are fun to play with and expand our color sense!)

Tools:

Working sewing machine (Singer Classics will work)

Rotary Cutter, ruler and small cutting surface

June Tailor Grid Marker (I will bring a couple so no worries if you do not have one.

Thread, scissors, pins, seam rippers, hand sewing needles, etc.

Our goal is to have fun and play with fabric. I have worked with many people who have created this project and there has never been an ugly one!

Fabric Manipulation Workshop

Final project will measure 25X25 approx. and will include three or more techniques

Most students should be able to finish their project within the two days. For those who want to focus on learning more techniques, there will be opportunities to do so.

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