

MARY LOU WEIDMAN

OUT OF THE BOX

Creating Story Quilts in an Exciting and Creative Way

This process workshop is a wonderful chance to say something special about someone or something you love.

Please bring the following:

- Sewing Machine in good working order –new needles.
Be sure to bring foot pedal and cord
- Sewing supplies- thread, scissors, pins, needles and anything YOU need to make quilts with. What I sew with might be different than what you sew with.
- A fine-point Sharpie can darken your drawing to help with copying it.
- Rotary cutter and new blade. I prefer using two main sizes of rulers.
- 9 ½ inch Omnigridd square and also a 3 ½' square ruler.
- Pencil and large eraser and a notebook – a couple of sharp pencils
- Freezer paper – fold a large bit of it and leave the box at home; it is too weighty to pack if you are flying.
- Small paper bag for garbage with tape to put it by your work station
- Table lamp, if you need more light
- Something to cover your work space at night
- Greeting cards, sketches, pictures, color books of things that inspire you. These kinds of pictures are always fun to have nearby and to show others.
- I use rick rack and trims for fun and after the quilt is done, I add buttons and fun things.
- Old linens for aprons on people or a table or added here or there are fun and add nostalgia. (*I am working on a little girl with a 1940's apron, for example.*)
- 1-1/3 Yard of fabric for the background (center) of your quilt (dark dark or light light-no mediums) – black is easy. Lately I have been mixing fabrics together for my center but they have to be light or a color that shows off everything you place on it so you can see the story. If you want to go the easiest route with the thinking part on your story, stick with one color (light or dark).

PLUS (you need this the first day)...

- 2 ½ yards of fabric for the background of your border blocks (light in value or dark in value) This will make your blocks and border black of a dark color is easy and makes things pop!
- A good range of fabrics for a scrappy and fun border. I use brights and bold colors. These borders can also be lovely and soft or folksy and warm. You choose the feel your celebration might be as it is your quilt. Many people use country fabrics for their choice. In other words you do not have to use brights.
- I suggest having many 1/3 yard cuts and some ¼ yards cuts and then leftovers chunks and scraps that will all coordinate with your quilt color feel. I like choosing three to four colors and then building on those colors. So, for example, I might have 10 to 14 soft blues, and 8 soft yellows and 15 great reds and a black or two for sparkle. You can choose any three colors (or more) and perhaps you have some fabrics that have all colors in them to throw in the mix. This makes my quilt scrappy because the fabrics are all different but the colors will all pull together (*if you follow what you have just read*).
NOTE – when people bring old projects to cut apart borders, they are disappointed (*usually*). Don't try to make something leftover as a lovely border (just my two cents).

Remember, this is your artist's palette!

- If you have used paints in quilts before they are also welcome. If you do plan this, please email me so I can give you some advice. Lattegirl@aol.com

I will be discussing 7 fabric personalities and your buying habits.

Maybe you will discover some new things about the way you buy that you didn't know before. I do not use any fabrics containing white unless many of the fabrics in my stash contain white. I will discuss this.

Then, after the borders are all done and attached, you will build your "story" objects with the leftovers from your borders and other fabrics you have brought. We will be discussing the power of color and fabric choices. I have changed this in that you can begin with your blocks and then start working on your story. I will bring lots of examples.

This sounds more difficult than it is-see how creating is easy and fun!

We will also be learning what makes life a celebration and why we need to celebrate each day. Prepare to come and make new friends and smile for this multi day workshop.

FAIRY GIFTS

*I have bought tiaras for class participants for years and love the whimsy it creates.
It's fun and every story quilter deserves a tiara!*

Years ago we started doing fairy gifts in class. A fairy gift is a little something that a person makes (pin cushions, earrings, pot holders for example), or things like seeds and garden gloves from the dollar store, lotions, cheap and fun jewelry, knick knacks, fabric, thread, sewing doodads, pincushions you find a good deal on, shoe laces, trims, pins etc etc etc.

The gift is placed by sewing machines when most people are not there. Then when you come to your machine, we say "the fairies stopped by." This is optional. But most people participate because it is fun and everyone loves it.

:0)

marylouquilt designs.com

Page 2 of 2



SESSION I

Sunday To Friday, February 23 – 28, 2020

Mail: 5306 Springridge Court, Fairfield, CA 94534-4005 | Phone: (707) 864-1170 Fax (707) 864-1345
Email: info@emptyspoolsseminars.com | Website: emptyspoolsseminars.com