MARY LOU WEIDMAN
SESSION III • Sunday to Friday, March 24–29, 2019

Out Of the BOX — Creating Story Quilts

This class is a process class centered on a time-honored tradition of thoughts in handwork. We will be exploring ourselves and those we love. Legacy quilts are wonderful pieces that tell volumes about the women who produce them. You will be telling us about the people, places, or events that have touched you in some way. This is a class that touches the heart and the funny bone. Mary Lou has some additions to this class you will really like – hint – drawings ready made.

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

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 thin line 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” omnigrid square and also a 3 ½” square ruler.
• Pencil and large eraser and a notebook- a couple of sharp pencils
• Freezer paper- fold a nice big 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
• 1-1/3 yard of fabric for the background (center) of your quilt (dark dark or light light-no mediums) – black is easy

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). --- Remember, this is your artist’s palette.

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If you have used paints in quilts before, they are also welcome.

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

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.

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. 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.

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