

## PRISCILLA BIANCHI

# Intuitive & Spontaneous Improv Curves and Circles

Over time my artistic work has evolved and so has this workshop. More freedom, more abstraction, more improv, much more play! This workshop introduces students to elements and principles of design, and explores a variety of ways to create curves, waves, and circles. All these art quilting techniques will enrich the students' repertoire, and provide the flexibility an artist needs to create original, innovative work. Students will be encouraged to experiment and stretch out of their comfort zones in order to express themselves in their own way. The kit of assorted hand-woven Guatemalan textiles (provided in class), is the basis to create a strikingly attractive design with color, movement, texture, rhythm, and ethnic flair!

Students will learn "hands-on":

- To plan their design from scratch and draw a master pattern if they feel they need for control; or to work without a plan if they dare to improv;
- How color & fabric choices determine the mood of the design;
- How to reflect your own personality into your work of art;
- To use liberating improv techniques like free-form rotary cutting, "stack-cut-shuffle-sew", "flip & sew", simple paper-piecing, appliqué by machine, sewing soft curves without pins, among others.
- To mix-and-match hand-woven, hand-dyed textiles with commercial cottons, to create a one-of-a-kind look, that can be ethnic or contemporary!
- Design principles like Color, Shape, Balance, Movement and Unity will be discussed.

## SUPPLY LIST

- Basic student kit – U.S.\$40 [cash only] will be provided in class. (Includes 12 - 1/8 cuts of assorted hand-woven, striped Guatemalan textiles. Pre-washed and ready to use in your project. (Please note that Guatemalan hand-woven fabrics are 34" wide.) You will need to supply additional coordinating fabrics; see below.
  - My most recent coffee table book, *Guatemala Art Quilts*, for inspiration, autographed – U.S. \$40 will also be provided in class. (Optional)
  - Basic sewing & sewing machine supplies
  - Sewing machine with 1/4" foot
  - Measuring tape
  - Rotary cutter, mat & ruler (at least 12" long)
  - Fabric scissors
  - Blue masking tape (optional)
  - Notebook & colored pencils (to sketch and take notes)
  - 2 yds. FLANNEL (neutral color) for a design wall (at least 72" long) – This is crucial!
  - Coordinating fabrics for your improvisational "waves": (to mix-'n-match with the Guatemalan textiles):
  - Bring 20 – 35 fat quarters in assorted colors and patterns. Suggestions: basics, tone-on-tones, batiks and other ethnic fabrics (e.g. African, Japanese, Australian), hand-dyes, plaids, stripes, geometrics. In reality, anything you like goes!
  - For your art quilt's background: 1 1/2 yds. of a wonderful hand-dyed fabric in LIGHT value, may be gradated. It should be calm not busy. The background is there to complement all the other fabrics, not to compete or draw too much attention on itself.
  - Iron & ironing surface
  - Something to cover your work at night
  - Table-top light, extension cord and power strip, if you are driving.
- Optional:* I will bring extra assorted Guatemalan fabric kits that students can purchase if they so desire. Washing & care instructions will be provided.



### SESSION 1

Sunday to Friday, March 2–7, 2025

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