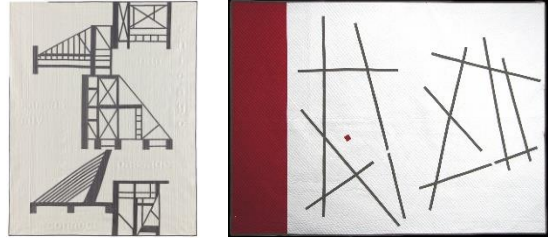


Alegre Retreat 2020

Jacquelyn Gering

Composing with Line



Composing with Line (all levels)

Explore the beauty, simplicity and complexity of line. We'll start with the basic principles of linear design and analyze quilts to see those principles in action.

Jacque will lead you through a series of exercises to ground you in the fundamental principles and as the week progresses you will apply those principles to create original designs.

Students will work with Jacque and each other in a fun, collaborative environment to explore linear design, piecing techniques and the elements and principles of design. Students will create several small pieces that may serve as seeds for further explorations and larger pieces that may be begun at the retreat.

(Materials fee: none)

Materials List

Please read the supply list carefully and be sure to complete your pre-class work before you arrive at the event.

You will be doing design and technique exercises in class and planning and executing at least one original linear design project. We will be focusing on small studies that can be seeds for larger projects to work on at home. I recommend that you start with projects about 36" x 36" during the event. If you want to start a larger project based on your small studies you are welcome to.

Supplies provided at the event

Irons, ironing boards

Design walls

Supplies to bring

Bring your sewing machine and accessories. (1/4" foot, needles, oil, manual and don't forget your foot pedal and power cord) - (*Sewing Machine rentals are available at the resort, please see the website for details*)

Cutting mat, ruler and rotary cutter

Notebook or sketchbook with completed homework and room for additional design work and note taking

Pencil/colored pencils and eraser

Small ruler for drawing lines

Graph paper

Thread for piecing

Extra sewing machine needles

Fabric safe marking pencils or pens

Pins

Seam ripper

Scissors for cutting paper

Painter's tape 1" wide

Glue stick

Post it notes

Pillow or chair pad

Optional: Wooden iron or seam roller for quick pressing

Walking foot, free motion foot, batting and basting supplies if you feel you might get to the quilting stage of your project.

Fabric to bring

For design/technique exercises

1 yard each of two high contrast solid color cotton fabrics

*I recommend black and white, but if that's not your thing feel free to choose colors that will work in a two-color composition.

For your linear design project(s)

Two sets of 5 coordinated solids (1/4 yd. or 1/2 yd. cuts)

1 to 1 1/2 yards of background fabric(s) for each set

1 or more 1/4 yd. cuts of coordinating prints for each set

Notes about fabric choices

*Background fabric can be solids, tone on tone, textural prints or low value prints.

*I like to be able to cut width of fabric strips to use as lines rather than cutting from FQ's, which is why I asked for 1/4 or 1/2 yard cuts.

Your sets can be a coordinated color way, a set of graduated solids of one color or a set of favorites.

*Be sure to consider contrast between the background fabric and the fabrics you bring that will be the lines in your design. Contrast is important.

*Large-scale graphic prints or stripes can transform dramatically when cut into strips and used as lines in compositions.

*I want you to have enough fabric to choose from, so having multiple options is good, but too much fabric can also be overwhelming. Remember, you can make a stunning composition with only two contrasting fabrics.

*We all work at different rates. You know yourself best. Are you slow and deliberate or quick and decisive? Do you sew quickly and efficiently or do you like to take your time and ease into a project? Think about how you work to help determine how much fabric to bring.

If you have questions about fabric choices or what to bring, please feel free to contact me directly at jacquietps@gmail.com. I'm happy to talk with you about fabric options in advance.

Pre-class Work

Task 1

In a small notebook or sketchbook, draw one linear design each day, from today through the day you arrive at the event. Use a pencil and a ruler or draw freehand if you want to draw curved lines. The more designs you create the better. If you skip a day, sketch the next day. If you skip a week, sketch the next day. Don't beat yourself up, have fun and draw lines.

1. Work quickly. Spend no more than 5 minutes each day.
2. You are not creating the Mona Lisa. Draw a design and move on. Don't analyze, just draw.
3. Leave your eraser in the drawer. Leave it, turn the page and draw a new design. Please don't tell me you can't draw. Put the pencil on the paper and move it. You're drawing!
4. Challenge yourself to draw designs with parameters. For example:
 - a. Designs with only 3 lines.

- b. Designs with only parallel lines.
- c. Designs with lines that don't intersect
- d. Designs with only right angles
- e. Designs where each line has a different thickness
- f. Designs that combine straight and curved lines
- g. Designs with a continuous line
- h. Designs with movement
- i. Designs that feel powerful
- k. Designs that have perspective
- l. Designs that create the essence of an object or place
- j. Create your own parameters

Task 2

Make two strip sets.

Instructions:

Use the same solids you are bringing for the design/technique exercise above to make the strip sets.

1. Cut eight 1 1/2" width of fabric strips from fabric #1 and eight 1 1/2" width of fabric strips from fabric #2
2. Sew fabric one to fabric two in pairs.
3. Press the seams to the dark or open.
4. Sew four pairs together to make a strip set with eight strips. Repeat to make a second strip set.



Task 3

Open your eyes to the lines around you. Walk more, drive less and be observant. Notice lines in nature, in architecture, and in objects. Take photos of lines that inspire you. Write notes, ideas, and observations in your linear design sketchbook.

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**Alegre Retreat 2020- For additional information or to register, please call:
970-931-2725 or email: info@alegreretreat.com or katie@katiepm.com**