# At Play in the Garden of Stitch



Using stitch in artwork begins with an expressive line. Loosen up and explore new territory with line and stitch in this free-motion quilting workshop. Learn to focus on the character of line and personal symbols through simple drawing, composition and stitching exercises.

- **First we make a mess**. Begin to see that line is active and reactive. There are no mistakes.
- **Embrace the wonky.** Learn to make the most of whatever occurs by joining ideas to line motifs..
- **Think in thread.** Translate visual stimuli into pathways by stitching in continuous line.
- **Cut it up!** Use your stitching samples to create unique compositions.

Participants will accumulate a toolbox of techniques for seeing, interpreting and completing concept-driven work. Build your stitching vocabulary and trust the thread to tell your story.

Open to all skill levels, free-motion quilting experience a plus.

If you have any additional questions about this class, below is the contact info for your instructor:

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#### **MATERIALS LIST**

**Sewing machine** with the ability to do free-motion quilting (double check that you have a free-motion foot that works)

## **Fabric and batting**

- One yard of Black Kona cotton fabric
- One yard of White or Natural Kona cotton fabric
- A variety of your favorite solid colored or patterned fabrics (about four yards)
- At least ten 14" x 14" squares of batting (any kind is fine but you may want to experiment with several kinds.

#### **Thread**

Your favorite brand of quilting thread in black, white or natural. (I prefer YLI brand 100% Long staple cotton, TEX 40 or Aurafil Mako 40 wt cotton thread)

Threads that match or complement your colored fabrics.

## A quilt you are willing to cut up (optional)

Re-using quilts as raw materials can be liberating and challenging. We will be cutting up some of the stitch samples we create in class. But you can bring something of your own to play with too. We may even share with each other.

## **Needles for your machine**

I use 90/14 or 100/16 topstitch needles with 40 wt threads. If you bring lighter weight thread bring some 80/12 needles or a variety to try.

# **Notions** (your favorites)

- · Chalk marker
- Scissors
- · Rotary cutter

## Office supplies

- Journal, legal pad or diary to keep notes
- One fine-tip *dry* erase marker in black
- One fine line black marker (I use Pilot Precise V5 pens)
- A way to capture images: digital camera, computer tablet, smartphone.
- Your ideas and patience.