

Inspired Art Quilt Collage with Deborah Boschert Alegre Retreat 2025

Taking inspiration from photos, identify colors, patterns, shapes and composition then create an original art quilt collage incorporating these elements. (Rather than copying an image, learn to isolate elements and other interesting features and apply them to an original design.) Learn tips and tricks for raw edge fused appliqué. Explore a variety of techniques for creating pattern and marks on fabric using paint. Convert elements from your photos into stitched motifs. Abstract the layout of a photo into a dynamic composition. Deborah offers a set of steps with lots of freedom for creative expression within each step. We'll also have time each day for interactive exercises and discussion to develop a unique creative voice.

Supply List

- **5 to 7 printed copies of “inspirational images”**

Landscapes, architecture, or travel photos work best. Pick something with a variety of lines, colors, shapes, patterns or themes. They don't have to be great photos or printed on photo paper — just good for using as inspiration. Ideally, these come from your own collection of photos. Portraits of people or pets won't work for this project.

- **6 to 10 fat quarters or equivalent scraps of commercial prints**

Taking cues from the colors in one of your “inspiration images” choose fabrics you love that look great together. Include darks, mediums and lights in a variety of prints from large to small scale, tone-on-tone and one or two multi-color pieces. If you have pre-fused fabrics, feel free to bring them. If you have fabrics with original surface design, or surface design samples from other workshops, feel free to bring them too.

- **4 to 6 fat quarters solid color cotton fabrics or scraps that are about 10x10” (light or medium value)**

Pick colors that coordinate with your fabric palette. This is fabric for surface design explorations.

- **5 yards fusible webbing**

I use and recommend Wonder Under by Pellon or Misty Fuse.

- **two pieces of batting approximately 18x18”**

- **rotary cutter, ruler and mat**

- **scissors**

It's good to have large fabric scissors, regular paper scissors and small scissors for embroidery.

- **freezer paper, approximately 1 yard**

- **parchment paper, approximately 1 yard**

- **3 or 4 spouncers or stencil sponges**

- **brushes**

A few paint brushes for mixing paint and basic application of paint to fabric.

- **sticky-backed fun foam**

Single 8x12” sheet from a craft store is plenty, but it can be hard to find. Deborah will have some to sell in class.

- **4 to 6 small bottles acrylic paint**

Include darks and lights to coordinate with your fabric palette. Craft store paint is fine. I like Folk Art Brand from Michaels.

- **2 or 3 paper plates or similar to use as a paint palette and for mixing paint**

- **4 or 5 pieces of foam core approximately 4x4”**

These will be used as mounts for foam stamps. Recycled styrofoam or heavy cardboard are also fine. Don't buy anything. I'll have some extra options.

- **small container for water**

- **plastic trash bag to cover your work area**

Also an apron if you have one you like to wear when using paint

- **embroidery floss, pearl cotton or other embroidery threads**

Coordinate with your fabric palette, some darks and some lights. (6 to 8 skeins)

- **embroidery needle and thimble if you use one regularly**

- **sketchbook, pen and pencil**

- **iron and ironing surface (unless provided)**

Optional

- **Additional fabric, paint or embroidery floss**

Feel free to bring additional prints or solid fabrics if you want to have more choices to work with. A few more bottles of paint and floss may also be nice to have. You may also wish to bring more batting if you think you'd like to work larger or make a few small compositions. (It's a balance between bringing enough to feel creative but not so much that you're paralyzed by too many options. Whatever you bring, we'll have a great time exploring possibilities.)

- **sewing machine and thread**

- **Fabric markers**

Black Micron Pigma 08 is my favorite.

- **Art Quilt Collage: A Creative Journey in Fabric, Paint, and Stitch by Deborah Boschert**



Deborah Boschert

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