

CAROL SODERLUND

DYEING TO STITCH



Inspired by Japanese Boro traditions, we will layer white cottons, silks, and linens—new or thrifted. Then the patched textile collage will be colored watercolor-style with dyes as a blending device, becoming the base for improvisational stitching using a variety of threads, including those we have dyed ourselves. We will explore other simple mark making techniques to add complex visual interactions including the use of opaque paints and markers. Come enjoy spontaneity with stitch and dye!

—All levels- no stitching or dyeing experience necessary

FABRIC--

Carol will supply a kit of materials for one stitchery, but you will like to bring additional fabric for more compositions.

We will begin with natural fibers —white or natural colors—linens, cottons, and silks. For the base fabric of your stitching, you will want something pleasurable to stitch through! This is not the time to bring out tightly woven broadcloth. Thrift-store linen napkins, or other linens are ideal, even if they have some stains. For a cotton base, bring PFD (Prepared For Dyeing) cloth. Scraps of silks both sheer and opaque and white on white prints can be added for variety, as well as cheesecloth.

THREADS

We will be dyeing some floss and pearl cottons in colors coordinating with our compositions, so bring

- 6-12 skeins of DMC white embroidery floss
- 1 ball of white pearl cotton size 5 or 8
- white cotton sewing thread

If you already own a collection of colored embroidery floss, bring it plus any pearl cottons you have collected.

NEEDLES

Hand Embroidery needles, assorted sizes
Chenille #18 —for stitching with thicker yarns
Chenille #24— for stitching with pearl cottons
Milliners #3-9—for wrapped and cast stitches

GENERAL SUPPLIES

- small sketchbook, pen, and pencil
- Sharpie, ultra fine point black
- slim binder with 10-15 page protectors
- white chalk marker (eg Clover Chaco Liner or Bohin Mechanical chalk pencil)
- painting smock/old clothes
- rubber gloves--the thin nitrile ones (from the pharmacy) and heavier dishwashing gloves
- paper towels/dye rag for table cleanups
- small pair scissors or snips
- plastic dishpan or a small bucket (1 gallon size)
- one piece of clear 1/8" thick Plexiglas, 12 x 12" (available at Home Depot.) A square quilting ruler, 12 x 12 or 15 x 15 can easily be substituted
- 3 plastic trash bags, kitchen size (approx.)
- Ott light and extension cord (so helpful for doing hand work)
- 6" or 8" embroidery hoop
- OPTIONAL: iPad and Apple pencil

DO CALL OR EMAIL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS!

SUPPLY FEE: \$50 *The supply fee covers a fabric kit of linen, cottons, and silks as well as handouts, all the dyes and auxiliaries you will need, plus a variety of equipment to use in class. Some dyeable embroidery threads will be available for purchase.*