

SUE BENNER

textile artist

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WORKSHOP TITLE: *FUSING THE GRID: Variations on a Square Theme*

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LENGTH: 2 days

LEVEL: Beginner to Intermediate

SEWING MACHINE USED? No

DESCRIPTION: To create a series of three art quilts based on a grid structure, Sue Benner offers many ways to work with rectilinear design using fusible web. This is a great workshop for developing new directions in color, working in a series, and experimenting with silk and other fibers. The techniques and ideas that Sue teaches in this workshop are the basis for much of her work.

(Workshop includes PowerPoint presentations, demonstrations and handout.)

SUPPLIES TO BRING (To Make Three 16" x 16" Quilts):

Wonder-Under

Bring 10-12 yards of 17" wide Pellon Wonder-Under 805 paper-backed fusible web. (*HINT: Watch for coupons and discounts on Wonder-Under at JoAnn Fabric, Walmart and craft stores*). Soft Fuse and Mistyfuse (with added parchment paper) are good alternative fusibles; however, do not bring Heat n' Bond.

Fabrics

Bring an assortment of fabrics for the top of your quilted constructions. Remember you can fuse fabrics that you can't piece, so be creative. Consider a minimum of 20 different fabrics, about fat eighth or fat quarter (or like) size is fine of each:

- Bring a range of **values** from **light to dark**, not just medium values. Stretch yourself by using brights, tints, tones and shades. Black is good, too
- Mind-bending color, be bold.
- Hand-dyed and painted are fabulous; batiks work great; large prints, small prints.
- Cotton, silk, linen, rayon, and polyester will all work, include some **shiny, funky, silky**, etc.
- Recycled thrift store clothing
- Sheer fabrics like chiffon and organza
- Fabrics fused for other projects or classes
- 3 pieces of cotton fabric cut to 18" x 18" each, for backs of quilts, pre-washed

Pre-washing is not required but strongly suggested for ease of use and better fusing.

You can fuse fabric before the class to speed up your process in class. You could start with fusing your fat eighths or a 9-12" length of Wonder-Under (17" wide) to a grouping of 20 or so different fabrics. And you can also fuse some fabric scraps. ***Do not pull the paper off, transport flat or rolled.***

Batting

Bring 3 pieces of cotton quilt batting pre-cut to 18" x 18". To insure consistent results, only bring 100% cotton batting such as Quilters Dream Cotton or Fairfield Soft Touch. Some battings contain polyester or a scrim of synthetic material (Warm'n'Natural) that can cause problems like shrinking or dimpling, but we can deal with it if that's all you can bring.

Bring another piece of batting (see immediately below for instructions) for ironing/design surface.

Other Supplies

- Portable ironing surface 18" x 18" or larger, or another piece of the same batting above, about 24" x 48" and a piece of white or off-white cotton fabric to cover it for an ironing/design surface
- Steam Iron
- Sharp scissors, gridded cutting mat, rotary cutter, and gridded ruler
- Press cloth of 100% cotton (long staple cotton, like pima), pre-washed, approximately 18" x 18," white is best. If you don't have this kind of cotton, bring any kind of white cotton.
- Teflon press sheet or parchment paper
- Pencil, paper, masking tape
- Straight pins
- Unless these items are furnished by the workshop: vertical design board or surface, extension cord and outlet strip

Optional

- Digital/phone camera
- Iron cleaning sheets
- Reducing glass or other type of reducing viewer

Supplies on Hand: Digital camera and interesting fabric scraps for the class to use.

Please email or call if you have questions about the supply list!

Class Fee: None