

In this three-day workshop you will first create a sampler, and then repeat the steps on a small art quilt. Along the way you will learn:

- several techniques for painting with thickened dyes to create a realistic image on cotton fabric, and
- how to thread paint in a natural, organic style with your sewing machine, to make your dye painted image even more lifelike.

Prior painting experience is not required. However prior experience using a sewing machine is essential, ideally with some exposure to free motion quilting.

You will also create your own artwork using a photograph from nature, either your own or one of Sue's photos. This in-depth class includes some of the preparatory steps that are not included in the one-day workshops, such as preparing the line drawing, treating the fabric and preparing the sodium alginate mixture to thicken the dyes.

Each day of the workshop lasts approximately 6 hours. The activities for each day will depend upon class interests and individual progress, but will generally include:

Day 1:

- treat the fabric and prepare the sodium alginate mixture from the basic ingredients.
- use thickened dyes to get a feel for how the dye works with the fabric using the different brushes and different application methods on a sample piece of fabric.
- select a photographic image for the class project and use it to create a line drawing
- begin applying thickened dyes to the selected image

Day 2:

- complete the dye painting project begun on Day 1
- learn some of the basic techniques of realistic/organic thread painting using the sample piece (if the sample dye painting piece is not ready for quilting, a piece of plain cotton fabric can be used.)

Day 3:

- Thread paint your completed dye painting project in a realistic organic style<sup>1</sup>.
- Sue will demonstrate several common background patterns such as wavy lines, poppy petals, mctavishing and "writing in the sky". You can pick one of these to complete your small art quilt

### Student Supply List

- Glass jar with lid for mixing
- Glass jar for water
- 1-2 rags or paper towels
- light table for tracing image (optional)
- a printed photo of the image you would like to use (Sue has some if you can't bring your own)
- Sewing machine with the ability to disengage feed dogs for free motion quilting
- Quilting hoop (optional)
- Batting and backing to make a quilt sandwich
- thread for thread painting
- quilt marking pen with disappearing ink (optional – used for writing in the background)
- several safety pins + 2-3 pieces of wide elastic 12"- 18" long

<sup>1</sup> if the dye painting project is not ready, a printed image of a quilt top dye painted by Sue can be available for purchase. Alternatively, you may choose to continue working on your dye painting on Day 3 and do more thread painting on your sampler.