

Concepts ...

Student News and Notes – Autumn 2018



FROM: Anne Mitchell (Owner)
PO Box 2340, Toowoomba Q 4350
Mobile 0418 771 808
Email: anne@genesiscreations.com.au
Phone 07 4613 4426

Hi Fellow Teachers and Fabric Enthusiasts,

“Every day brings a chance for you to draw in a breath, kick off your shoes, and dance.” (Oprah Winfrey)
Ah yes, this is never more true than during the balmy days of autumn. The heat of summer has given way to cooling sunsets and the freshness of early mornings. How special is it to pull the blanket closer and snuggle in for just a few more minutes before jumping out of bed!? And so to another day. Maybe ‘kick off the shoes, and dance’ need not be taken so literally! Maybe to just ENJOY the day and make the most of it? I think so! Let’s DO that!

I know that the next few months will see me jumping out of bed with my running shoes on ... and definitely dancing with joy. There are craft shows and workshops lined up in my year planner ... and I hope you too will be involved in some of



Love the drive south, as the leaves turn to their russets and golds along the New England Highway – always a source of inspiration.

Find some autumn leaves, trace around them, and capture their beauty in silk painting or fabric art techniques

this fun and activity. Autumn starts with a wealth of creative things at World of Craft in Brisbane in early March, followed closely by a series of fabric designing and silk painting workshops in my Toowoomba studio. In April, I’m driving to Albury via our manufacturers’ warehouse in Sydney where I’ll spend a valuable morning talking over new ideas. It’s always a stimulating time discussing different paints and accessories to share with you in our classes and workshops. Love my times at the factory! I’m sure my head will still be buzzing from all that when I arrive in Albury for our GC Teacher Training program and more student workshops.

After a series of workshops in regional Queensland in May and June, I’m off to Port Macquarie in July for their Biennial Quilt Show, with an Open Day at my home-away-from-home to follow so we can enjoy even more skills together. Our big event in August is in Brisbane for Home Economics State Conference. In addition to our trade stand with display and demonstrations, I have been once again asked to present a hands-on workshop for textiles teachers. September? Adelaide! I’ll be there for the

Australian Machine Quilters’ Festival, with displays and demonstrations in the Vendors’ Mall, as well as FREE hands-on workshops at our booth. I’ll also present seminars on the Main Stage at scheduled times each day. To make the most of my time in Adelaide, I’ll arrive a few days before AMQ Festival and stay later to conduct a series of workshops at my rented home-away-from-home. There are more dates, times and places elsewhere in this newsletter. Check my website regularly too. The Events page has details and registration information for my workshops.

MORE DETAILS for the COMING EVENTS ... SHOWS in 2018 ...

World of Craft, Brisbane – 2nd till 4th March, at the Exhibition Building, RNA Showgrounds from 10 am till 4 pm each day. Find us at Stand 40.

- Displays and demonstrations of our new techniques as well as ‘old favourites’
- Talk to us about your project ideas and how we can help you best
- FREE hands-on mini-workshops - 11.30 am, 1 pm and 2.30 pm each day – “Creating Crystal Designs”. Booking is essential, so come to our stand to register as soon as you arrive at the show. Numbers are limited.
- Attend my FREE seminar on the Live Stage at 10.30 am each morning – “Big and Beautiful Fabrics”

Biennial Quilt Show, Port Macquarie – 13th till 15th July, from 10 am till 4 pm on Friday and Saturday, 10 am till 3 pm on Sunday. Venue: Panthers Club auditorium. Enjoy our usual spectacular display, watch our demonstrations, and participate in our FREE pop-up mini-workshops each day at our stand.

Home Economics Queensland Conference, Brisbane – Saturday 18th August, at the Convention Centre, South Bank.

Australian Machine Quilting Festival, Adelaide – Thursday 20th till Sunday 23rd September - more details soon.

DATTA National Conference, Melbourne – Thu 6th till Sat 8th December, at Swinburne University Hawthorn.

Craft Alive Events ... Due to other commitments at the times of Craft Alive shows in 2018, I shall not be participating in their events in Queensland this year. But I’ll be back in 2019, in Toowoomba and maybe North Queensland too, diary permitting.

Live in Victoria? Catch up with our GC Teachers at Craft Alive shows down your way.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

MOBILE 0418 771 808

EMAIL anne@genesiscreations.com.au

WORKSHOPS in 2018 ... My programs are ready to roll, with the first workshops in my Studio happening in March. Here's a broad outline of programs at home, and away ...

- ✓ **Toowoomba** – 15th till 20th March – Fabulous Fabrics one and two day workshops, as well as Sensational Silk. More workshops later in the year.
- ✓ **Albury** – Monday 23rd and Tuesday 24th April – Big and Beautiful, plus Fantastic Flats
- ✓ **Tannum Sands** – Tuesday 22nd May – details to be confirmed
- ✓ **Port Macquarie** – 16th and 17th July – Open House and hands-on topics on request
- ✓ **Adelaide** – 14th till 18th September, then 24th and 25th September – more information closer to the time. Please note the dates for now. Yes South Australia, I'm coming your way at last!
- ✓ **Melbourne (Hawthorn)** – Sunday 9th December – details to be confirmed

**FOR FULL DETAILS,
CHECK MY WEBSITE:**
www.genesiscreations.com.au

Download the registration form when available

Remember I do have car and will travel! There are still some spots available during the year, but please catch up with me soon so you can secure the date/s.

Another Magazine Article is ready to go to Press ... in the June issue of *Embellish*, we 'visit' Scotland, and my article shows you how to design wonderful tartan patterns using paint. Loads of fun – and so spectacular. There'll be three more articles following on from that, in September and December this year, then March 2019. If you are having difficulty tracking these magazines down through your local newsagent, you can order them through me – preferably in advance so you don't miss out. I'll have the magazines for sale during my workshops too, including back issues with my previous articles in them.

MAKING THE MOST OF OUR PAINTING TECHNIQUES:

Simple Water Soluble Batik ... *In this technique, the water soluble resist will penetrate the fabric and seal it so colour cannot penetrate those areas where it is applied. Medium to light weight fabrics will give a clearer result than heavy fabrics, so avoid bulky knits and double-weaves (eg fleecy fabrics or gabardine.) I have used silk, polycotton, and bleached calico in the samples shown. Homespun will be suitable too.*

METHOD:

1. Secure fabric to a sheet of paper – paper clips are OK for 'less wiggly' fabrics like cotton, but silk is best placed in a hoop or pinned to a frame.
2. Apply the water soluble resist: in the photo, the hibiscus has been stencilled, and the extra lines drawn freehand. For stencilling, fabric must be laying flat against the paper so invert the hoop or frame when painting onto the silk. Freehand lines and details can be applied flat onto the fabric for cottons; but for the silk, turn the hoop over so you are working with the silk suspended. Be generous with the amount of resist applied to be sure it penetrates the fibres completely.



Salt can be added for texturing in the design where appropriate (see RH border), but try not let it detract from the design. If too much salt is used, it can lessen the effect of what you are aiming to achieve in this technique.



3. Remove fabric from paper immediately and carefully place it onto plastic.
4. Allow resist to dry – can take ½ hour to an hour depending on the fabric and the amount applied - and the weather.
5. Paint or colour the design with Liquid Radiance, or watered down Flats. You can work right over the resist areas as the colour will not appear there when the resist is removed later. The fabric will come back to white (as seen in my samples) – or to the colour of the original fabric if not working on white.
6. Allow colours to dry completely.



7. Soak fabric in water for at least 20 minutes to soften the resist, then squeeze it gently under water - as if washing baby woolens – to remove the resist. Do this preferably within 12 hours, as soon as you can after the fabric is dry. If you leave it too long, it is more tricky to remove the resist!



7. Soak fabric in water for at least 20 minutes to soften the resist, then squeeze it gently under water - as if washing baby woolens – to remove the resist. Do this preferably within 12 hours, as soon as you can after the fabric is dry. If you leave it too long, it is more tricky to remove the resist!
8. Rinse the fabric two or three times to remove all traces of resist. Hang to dry.
9. When using Liquid Radiance to colour the design, heat set in the usual way. Iron using a heat setting suitable for the fabric, for 1 to 2 minutes. When using Watercolour Flats to colour your design, heat setting is not required. Even though the paints will be dry in a couple of hours, simply leave the watercolour about 10 days in the fabric to cure.



Here's to another wonderfully creative year together in 2018!
I look forward to sharing our ideas and skills with you in my home Studio and during my travels ...

Learn more about Watercolour Flats in our recently updated *Understanding Fabric Art Handbook*. This topic was not covered in the original book.

Anne