

Concepts ...

Student News & Notes – Spring 2023

Let the flowers of Spring inspire you for your creative projects ...

Anne Mitchell (Owner)
PO Box 7901, Toowoomba South Q 4350
Phone +61 7 4613 4426
E: anne@genesiscreations.com.au
Mobile 0418 771 808

G'day Fellow Teachers and Fabric Enthusiasts!

At the risk of becoming clichéd ... it's time to put a spring in our step. My phone MyMobility app is telling me I'm now nine months into my recovery from bilateral knee surgery, and my life is telling me it's great to have some of my old bounce back. Still about three more months to go until complete recovery ... evidently ... but good to know we're almost there. And as I open my windows on these spring mornings, it's a pleasure to have the scents of the garden rushing in.



Next I take a look around the garden and smile! There's so much inspiration in the colours and shapes that Mother Nature has created for us ...

- A stand of Strelitzia is bursting with elegant bird-of-paradise shapes in purple and gold. This was my inspiration for the colours of the 'Lace' project in *Embellish* #51.
- Creamy Clivia bunches are nestled in their dark green leaves, offering wonderful contrasts in light and shade. Look at those dramatic shapes!
- Trails of Nasturtiums wander through the gardens and over the rocks, bright orange trumpets happy among the interesting round leaves – and this gardener happy that they keep the weeds at bay too!
- Mop-up fabrics in greens, reds and oranges turn to gardens themselves – marigolds or whatever you imagine - after adding salt to the colours in the fabric.
- Our roses have their new growth after winter pruning. Soon they'll be ready to inspire all sorts of creativity! The Queen Elizabeth rose – my Nan's favourite – was a perfect shape for designing a stencil. Let me show you how to do this from your favourite images too. Just ask!



My artistic journey in a nutshell ... I loved colouring in when I was a child, but was a failure at 'drawing' in school. Then as a young mum who loves to be creative, my teacher training methods led me to develop 'systems' to achieve great results without having to be able to 'draw'. Fifty years later I'm still enjoying and sharing those skills and 'rules'. What a life eh !?!

Using Colour to Create Shape ... is a course of workshops where you can learn to paint objects that look REAL! ... with no artistic skills required at all, when you follow my 'rules'. Once you have conquered the basics of creating the 'real' looking shapes, you can paint – well - anything really!!! - animals, birds, fruit, people, ... whatever your project demands. ... Watch for these as two full-day workshops in March / April next year. FREE to attend via ZOOM. We'll start with simple five-petal flower shapes until you get the 'feel' of it, then progress to more complex shapes ... so simple you won't believe it! Interested? Contact me now via phone or email so I can pop you on the list to receive details for the program.

Hands-On in My Studio ... Hands-On via Zoom ... Demonstration Workshops via Zoom ... Videos on YouTube ... LET'S GET CREATIVE ... TOGETHER! More over the page ...

Learning at Your Leisure ... when you're unable to be at my teaching sessions 'in person', either for Hands-On Workshops in my Toowoomba Studio, or via Zoom wherever you live, there are PLENTY of videos and notes in my website to keep your creativity going. The **Ed Centre** is exactly that, a place where you can learn, with ALL PROGRAMS FREE to access:

- **Videos** of my workshops, both basic and advanced, on the Web Workshops page.
- Support notes and other resources in the **'First Aid Kits'** section of the Web Workshops page – scroll down and you'll see them.
- **'Concepts' Newsletters** from 2014 until the present, all with notes of techniques and ideas – my aim is to make these different from what you'll read in our handbooks to give you more to think about – and try.
- Even more notes and resources in the **Teacher PDs** page, accessible for everyone of course – check out the 'Teaching Liquid Radiance Techniques in the Classroom' handbook, especially if you're working with the grandchildren or your own youngsters, **from 3 to 93 (and beyond ☺)**.
- Free Design Books from our 20th and 24th Birthday celebrations, as well as more notes and designs – in the **Ideas and Inspirations** page. There's a Nasturtium stencil design on that page too. The image shows orange flowers of course, but the leaves have been painted teal blue to match a favourite pair of shorts of mine!



A typical filming set, two cameras ready for action

Education programs continue on my YouTube channel, with short videos of individual techniques, as well as the Web Workshops (same as on the website). Easiest way to find me on YouTube is via the link on every page of my website: www.genesiscreations.com.au OR www.genesiscreations.au (the latter is best when typed into your browser).

HINT: If the title is all in UPPER CASE LETTERS, that video is on YouTube only. If it's in both Upper and Lower Case Letters, you'll find it on YouTube as well as the website.

Next Workshops and Other Gigs Check Events page of website for more information ...

- **TEACHER PD WORKSHOPS via ZOOM – Saturday 30 Sept** - FREE to attend. 10 am Basics | 2 pm Extensions. Register now.
- **TEACHER PDs – HANDS-ON in my TOOWOOMBA STUDIO** – Wed 27 and Thu 28 Sept wshop is fully booked. Expressions of interest are welcome for a similar program to be held in the next school holidays early in January 2024. Contact me NOW to be kept up to date for this one.

"QUILTS on PARADE" – an exhibition of over 100 quilts by Toowoomba Quilters Inc - 16 till 22 Sept, at 'The Court', Toowoomba Community Baptist Church in Glenvale Rd. I'll be demonstrating there for the entire week, with displays and gear for sale at my trade stand. GREAT EVENT! Come to Toowoomba for our Carnival of Flowers, and the quilt show – and to see me!

OCTOBER - Hands-on workshop program in my Toowoomba Studio from 12 till 18 October. Full details are on the website Events page. Come for the entire program, or attend the topics of your choice. Registrations are now open.

Making the Most of our Painting Ideas and Techniques ... Soy Wax Batik ... If you have ever been 'put off' by all the 'difficulties' of removing paraffin wax from traditional batik work (as was I many years ago!), you'll find this technique much simpler by using professional grade soy wax,

available from candle supplies stores, as well as from us in small quantities – and it lasts for ages so you don't need lots for your projects! Check out my YouTube video for the detailed how-to when working with multiple layers of wax and colour. One result of this technique is seen in the green, white and grey image at left. It was done using four alternating layers of wax and colour.

Fabric at right (A) is a two layer 'play' inspired by commercial fabric that made me think, 'We can do that too', using multi colours in the base layer, then adding stronger multi-colours after the wax has been added and is dry (B & C). I used a detergent lid as my waxing device – the knob made a very handy handle! – and a small bristle brush to create the dots.

If you learned about this new skill during our celebration workshops in July, and have tried your own version of it, please let me know and send me the pics via SMS or email. I'd love to see your variations on this technique!

BENEFITS OF SOY WAX: it is environmentally safe, it melts at a low temperature (you can even use an oil burner to prepare the wax for small projects), and is removed simply using hot sudsy water. SOOOO good! Such GREAT results!!!

So let's put a SPRING in our step for some creativity of our own! ... It'd be super to see you at some of our events soon ...

Anne



Catching up with me - **0418 771 808** is the best number to call as life returns to normal. Bewdy !!!
Scan the QR code to go straight to the website.

