

# Concepts ...

Student News & Notes – Summer '23 '24

Liquid Radiance background, with lantana leaf prints in Liquid Lustre gold, & dragonfly sponged through stencil.

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

G'day Fellow Teachers and Fabric Enthusiasts!

**'Uppy-Down-y Bits' Reimagined!** ... To all of you who are reading this newsletter, yeeeayyyy, we have made it to the end of the year ... together! Thank you soooo much for your patience – and for sticking by me - during the very 'different' twelve months that 2023 has been. I'm delighted that the old bod is performing quite happily now; and apart from the odd urge to do more than I'm evidently capable of, requiring an hour or so 'off', my teaching program is surging ahead and I'm looking forward to spending more time with you in 2024.

Mmmm, uppy-down-y bits ARE an important part of my teaching! You've heard it many times during our workshops.

- **Up goes dark, down goes light** (coloured fabric against plastic, that is), closely followed by ...
- **It is how we screw up** (handle the fabric) that creates our designs! Yep, I love to help you understand how to form our really yummy, and quite amazing 'patterns'.

And on reflection, that's a bit like life, isn't it? Ups and downs, and screwing up, though hopefully not too much of the latter in the real world. It's how we 'manoeuvre' our fabrics that produce

the great effects in our fabric designing. Marbles, microwaves, grids, poles, water soluble resist, ... you can make your own list. Then in life? Lots of good LESSONS are learned from not doing quite so well sometimes. *"In every adversity, there is the seed of greater benefit"* is an old adage that comes to mind. Just gotta go looking for that seed. My yucky year in 2023 has definitely produced amazing benefits for my knees, and for establishing boundaries. Sometimes you've gotta keep your eye on the light at the end of the tunnel eh!?! Enough of my philosophising ...

**2024 plans well under way ...** for most of my 'working' life, I've set my teaching programs 13 months ahead. I'm sure that's why 2023 was so frustrating, with so many cancellations and postponements. But the benefit of those challenging times is that I now recognise a few limitations that the aging process imposes on one's lifestyle. Here's a broad overview of what's to come:

- ✓ **Zoom programs (Web Workshops)** will be held on Thursday mornings and Saturday afternoons, two or three times per month, with a few different week days for special occasions. They'll be both demo style and prac, depending on topic and the decisions of those attending.
- ✓ **Hands-On Workshops** in my Toowoomba Studio will increase, though will not be held every month. Web Workshops will be reduced, or not scheduled, during Hands-On months.
- ✓ **Large craft shows** are now gone from my program. Personal and local events will be my 'thing' from here on, as applicable. The Toowoomba Quilt Show? – had a great time, so hope I'm invited back!
- ✓ **Workshops away from home** will be small half or one day events, and not days on end as in the past. They'll be limited to within three hours' drive from home. In fact it really is better if you can come to me as everything we need is HERE – keeps costs down for you too.
- ✓ **Workshops with interest groups** can be planned either via Zoom from afar, or by coming to my Studio if nearby.



Poking fabric into small holes?  
It's all about the right satay stick, then knowing how!



Leaves for printing? It's all about strong veins and furry back-sides!

Check Events page of the website for 2024 dates



**Coming Events 2024 ... JANUARY ...** Let's swing into action early in the year so we can fit in a few Teachers' Professional Learning sessions before school goes back ...



1. **Hands-On PD Days in my Studio** – Thu 4 till Sat 6 Jan, from 9.30 am till 3.30 pm each day – a continuous program covering the basics of using Liquid Radiance, Lustres, and the Flat paints for students' creativity in the classroom, and extending into advanced topics like batik and discharge, as well as upcycling and more. Limit 5 participants. Topics will be custom built to needs and interests of those attending.
2. **Teachers' PDs via Zoom** – Mon 8 and Tue 9 Jan, 10 am start Qld time – prac sessions so you can work along with my demos. A prep list will be sent when you register. FREE to attend. You may need to purchase products for the workshop if not already using LR in your school. You'll have plenty of fabric on hand, I'm sure! Allow approx 3 hours for each day's program.

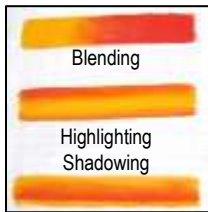


3. **HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS for EVERYONE** – Thu 11 till Tue 16 Jan – various topics – come for your chosen workshop/s or attend the entire program.  
[NOTE: This program will be repeated from 22 till 28 April but no class on Anzac Day.]

**Workshops via ZOOM will always be free to attend.**  
Find the fees for my Hands-On programs on the Events page of the website,  
or ask me to email the leaflet/s to you. [www.genesiscreations.au](http://www.genesiscreations.au)

**FEBRUARY ... All workshops are via Zoom this month ...**

1. **Liquid Radiance – Basics & Extensions** – let's do some warm-up sessions for those of you starting out to use our LR, or would simply like a refresher course! Thu 8 Feb at 10 am, then repeated on Sat 10 Feb at 2 pm.



2. **Using Colour to Create Shape** – Working with our Flat range of products and additives, we'll learn to paint objects that look REAL! No artistic skills required when you follow my 'rules'. Starting with a few exercises to turn basic shapes into 3D, we'll then get serious about painting for reality! Sessions will be prac, and approx 2 to 2 ½ hours each.

**DATES: Thu 22 and 29 Feb** start at 10 am, and on **Sat 24 Feb and 1 March** at 2 pm. Register now. Numbers will be limited for this course.



Yellow, red and white used in different ways to develop 3D effects. You'll learn how simple it really is!

**MARCH ...**

1. **Web Workshops** - Thu 14 (10 am) and Sat 16 (2 pm) March – topics will be discussed and decided at our coming Zoom sessions in December and January.
2. **"Basics and WAY Beyond"** - Fri 8 March – a custom designed hands-on workshop in my Studio, with a small group of friends from Queensland Quilters. IDEA: Is planning your own workshop something that you and your friends might be interested in too? Please catch up with me by phone or email to talk about it!



**Making the Most of our Painting Ideas and Techniques ...** Choosing the right equipment for the job applies to everything we do, whether washing the car (or our floors), watering the garden, baking a cake, or ... well ... whatever! The same applies if we're aiming for the best results in our fabric art and designing.

**CHOOSING THE RIGHT BRUSH** can sometimes be a dilemma! For the fabric painting you see here, firm synthetic brushes are used to bond the paint to the fabric. Our 'Elite' brushes are perfect for the job (specially chosen for us by me 😊.) Always use a brush suitable for the size of the area into which you are working. You wouldn't use a tiny brush to paint the petals of the hibiscus above, for example, or a large brush to paint the fine lines in the details of the kittens' faces.



Our Additives - Retardant and Thinner – give us longer to work when blending colours, and reduce the viscosity (thickness) of the paint. When fine detail is needed, the paint must flow easily and evenly from the brush. Our other brushes? For silk painting, the softer Classic brushes are the ones to choose. The Elite brushes are too firm. Our Natural Bristle brushes? Top quality, with a huge number of uses! Choose them full length to apply paint softly to the fabric (eg, subtle backgrounds, or textured effects). Chop off one-third of the bristle length to apply paint firmly to the fabric. Cut them off at an angle for painting furry or fluffy things! So much to explore in this topic !!!



**2024, here we come! Hope you'll be joining in the fun and creativity !!! ...**

*Anne*

