

Concepts ...



Student News & Notes – Autumn 2021

Traditional Silk "Practice Piece" in the three primary colours ... mixed to create unlimited colour possibilities and effects!

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Hi Fellow Teachers and Fabric Enthusiasts,

Our World of Creativity is taking an exciting New Turn! ... "The only thing constant in life is change" hardly starts to describe what has been happening in my Studio this year !!! What fun we're having at our regular Web Workshops via Zoom. Four down, three to go in the current series that started in February and will recommence in May. Both Introductory and Advanced programs are in full swing, with way too many topics being covered to try to list them here ... but you can find that information on my website. And talking of which ...

THE NEWLOOK WEBSITE will give you a much more comprehensive journey into our creative world of fabric designing, silk painting, and lots more. A brand new feature of the website will be the Ed Centre with links to my YouTube channel and Facebook page. You'll also be able to download notes to help you with our designing techniques and ideas – all for FREE. This *Concepts* newsletter will have a new 'home' on the site, to make it easier for you to enjoy all the painting hints and ideas in current epistles as well as in *Concepts* from the past. Watch for the new site launch after 18th April. [Current site active till then.]

NEW WEBSITE ORDER FORM will not be active immediately. I really want to get this one right, as I found the old form very 'puzzling' at times, and I'm sure you did too. Besides I'm **very much a 'talking to' person rather than an 'online' person** and love to chat with you about how our goodies can help you best to achieve what you're aiming to do in fabric designing (and whatever else). So PHONE or EMAIL me, whichever is more convenient for you. My teenage years were spent talking to customers in my parents' watchmaking and jewellery shop – a great school holiday job and a perfect way to earn some pocket money. I loved it! The 'talking to' part of the buying experience makes it so much more personal. But of course you can use the website order form when it is available if that suits you better.

Mmmm, did you know that Liquid Radiance is a brilliant wood stain, and that our Flat paints can be used not only on fabric but on any surface whatsoever. Great for the day to day touch-ups and fix-it tasks that bob up. ☺! And Gloss? - It has MANY uses around the home! More about that another time.
Ah ... IT IS SO GOOD TO BE DIFFERENT !!!

My YOUTUBE CHANNEL is about to launch ... I have been flat out recording our Web Workshop sessions over the past month, with more to do in the coming days – and LOTS more into the future. Those of you who are joining me 'live' for the zoom sessions will be able to have a 'refresher' on topics we've done in the workshops together. And for everyone else, there's a valuable 'education system' just waiting for you to explore. Learn more about Liquid Radiance and Flat paints, and find ideas and techniques to keep you going for years. Our LR is a unique product! The best results will be achieved by using it correctly !!! And that's what this former high school teacher is aiming to do by offering the workshops FREE, and coming to 'see' you in a way I've never done before.



HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS IN MY STUDIO will be able to continue all year round from now on, thanks to new heaters installed last year to combat Toowoomba's cold winters. There's nothing like learning our skills 'first hand', with all the necessary gear and inspirations at our fingertips. My Studio will be a busy place, swinging between Web and Hands-On programs – but that's exactly how I want it to be!

In 2020, the FREE workshops planned to celebrate the 21st Birthday of our business were all swallowed up by Covid lockdowns. Arrrrghhh !!! So I've transferred that FREE-DOM to THIS YEAR – well why not !?! Hands-on sessions will just have a small materials fee for fabrics and equipment I provide during those programs. Check website for details. Booking is essential. Numbers are limited in my Covid safe workplace.

**ALL WORKSHOPS are FREE till 31 Dec 2021 - hands-on in my Studio - Web Workshops via Zoom - YouTube lessons wherever you are! Let's get together and enjoy FREE-DOM – and CREATIVITY.
It'll be great to have you at my place to play !!!**

Having been an exhibitor with the **Craft Alive** team for many years at their live shows, it was difficult to say farewell to them when a new 'friend' Arthur(it-is) entered my life. The Craft Alive guys and gals present an excellent show and I have loved my times spent with them.

During their recent craft show in Toowoomba, of course I just had to call in and say g'day. A chat with Brett about their on-line events had me thinking ... yep, that sounds fun ... and I could do that! So you'll find me at these world-wide events very soon ... all held from Thursday till Sunday. Dates for the rest of this year are:

29th April till 2nd May

9th till 12th September

4th till 7th November

With all the features of the live shows, you can enjoy the benefits of 'being there' without having to leave home, wherever you are in the world ... craft stalls, workshops, and lots more, ... WOW !!! Check out the details on the Craft Alive website. **My workshops will be held each day**, with 'specials' during each show for those attending. Register via the website above.

Other Events at a Glance in 2021 ...

- **"Quilts in Bloom"** – presented by Toowoomba Quilters Inc at Salo Centre, St Ursula's College from 18th till 24th September – 9 am till 4.30 pm daily (Friday 9 am till 2 pm). I'm delighted to be presenting demonstrations and mini-workshops of fabric designing as a Trader, all day each day of the show. Brilliant event! If you are into fabrics and patchwork, don't miss it if you can humanly possibly be there. And Toowoomba is a great place to visit from afar too.
- **HEIA National Conference** – Brisbane Convention Centre from 27th till 29th September - sadly I shall not be there 'in person' this year, but shall participate as a Sponsor instead. Textiles teachers, I'll miss seeing you ... but watch for some special information in the Conference program and catch up with me that way.

WHAT'S COMING in EMBELLISH MAGAZINES? ... In the March 2021 issue #45, I delved



into the pantry to explore intriguing textures using salts and sugars. In June, the theme is 'Canada', so I've used maple leaves in a stencilling technique - metallic colours tinted with Liquid Radiance – and my project has made it onto the front cover again! 'Silk' is the theme for September, so I'll show more skills for traditional silk painting, this time by blending colours to produce spectacular results. "Fantasy Fish" on silk [issue #42] was simply an intro to this beautiful art. Silk painting is definitely addictive !!!

Back issues with my previous articles are still available from us at **\$8.00 per copy**. Magazines are now \$11.50 (newsagents' price). In September 2020 they had their first price rise in 10 years. Our price to you, my students, will be \$11.00 with any other order for our goodies.

Making the Most of Our Painting Techniques ... More Palette Mop-Ups, the 'in-a-hurry' way!



After a recent Web Workshop in silk painting - and being absolutely stretched for time! – doing something 'intelligent' to use up the colours on my palettes was simply not an option. And you KNOW I wouldn't waste them! So I drizzled a little more water over the left-overs and poured them into the dish to become ... well, whatever they became. The colour? A really deep bottle green (not true to colour in the images). From those meagre left-overs, I created two pieces of fabric and a pair of socks. A large piece of damp unbleached calico was coloured then sprinkled with pool salt. Socks were done next, and there was STILL colour left! Grabbed the nearest piece of fabric (quite heavy headcloth) and coloured it without wetting the fabric first. The fascinating thing about mixing Liquid Radiance randomly like this is that the original colours will usually emerge somewhere during the drying



time, depending on how you fold it or scrunch it or salt it ... or whatever handling technique you use. I wish I could show you the actual fabrics in these pieces. There are pinkish / goldish / reddish bits popping up in the salted areas, and the cream/green/grey mottling on the headcloth is ... well, crazy good. Ahhh, our LR still continues to amaze me! So come to my place to play and you'll SEE.

After all that, I need to let you know in advance that from 1st July '21 there will be a small price increase across our product range. We've been able to hold our prices for the past few years, but can do so no longer. Get in before 30th June if you'd like to beat that price rise!

Here's to lots more fun and creativity together in the months ahead ...

Anne

