

Concepts ...



Student News & Notes – Summer 20/21

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Liquid Lustres stencilled and leaf printed over Liquid Radiance background

Hi Fellow Teachers and Fabric Enthusiasts,

A Year with a Difference! ... hardly even begins to describe 2020 and the challenges it has brought our way. The world has changed, and our community with it; and a new lifestyle and ways of communication have been taken to places I never dreamed of! In my Summer *Concepts* newsletter this time last year, my theme was based on a new direction for a new decade. Mmmm, that came true, but not as I'd imagined. In Autumn, that theme continued with 'Transformation' to allow me to align my teaching activities with my age, a necessary factor as I reached my ¾ century mark. Then along came Covid and its associated restrictions ... and Zoom for teaching ... and SendinBlue as a new vehicle for communicating. Learning all these innovative ways of 'getting around' has been exciting – and a bit challenging – and I've loved every minute of it. The learning will continue into 2021 ... but more about that later.

WEB WORKSHOPS 2020 REPORT ... HUGE THANKS to those of you who have travelled with me via Zoom since September, turning my one session per topic into three sessions with your eager response. I would definitely NOT have been able to catch up with most of you if I'd had to zoom there by Mazda – well not in a hurry anyway! THANK YOU also for your compliments about the workshops, and your enthusiastic participation. It will be soooo good to have you travel on with me for the Advanced workshops in 2021.

After the success of this year's Introductory Web Workshops, I shall run the same program again next year, with a maximum of 15 participants per group so I can get to know you and help you best, and you can get to know your classmates too. Registrations are open now. **Workshops are FREE to 'attend' and run for 1 hour per session.** Meeting room (aka my Studio work bench) is open 20 minutes before starting time, so we have time to chat and relax into the workshop. Everyone is then muted while I 'do my thing' for the session; then participants can stay on to ask questions and share even more ideas from the discussion points that arise when the formal workshop is over.

NEW TO ZOOM?

I'd be delighted to set up a 15 minute practice session with you personally – as I've already done with several of the girls now attending the workshops. This will take the 'scary' out, and help you with checking in and what happens from then on during the workshop. But really it's as simple as clicking on the link I send you for each session. **It's definitely NOT SCARY !!!**

INTRODUCTORY WEB WORKSHOPS 2021 – Tuesdays at 10 am and 2 pm (Brisbane time) PLUS Sundays at 2 pm

STARTING DATES ARE BELOW ... two sessions per topic ... second session the following week

FEBRUARY - Sun 14 and Tue 16

Innovative Technology for Fabric Design

The what, why, and how of using Liquid Radiance. You'll learn simple and stunning techniques on fabrics as well as a couple of garments

MARCH - Sun 14 and Tue 16

Sensational Silk

Traditional silk painting techniques as seen in June *Embellish*, and a few extra fun things to do as well

MAY – Tue 11 and Sun 16

Simply Stencilled!

I can't draw! I'll show you how to create your own stencils using our burner, and work with those shapes in several different ways

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL – Contact me ASAP – I'll send the Zoom link on the Friday before each session.



These workshops have been planned to give participants a broad overview of our fabric designing skills, both basic and way beyond that, using our range of products and accessories. Our products and techniques are safe, simple, economical, and sustainable. There is no complicated equipment required! Mmmm, I'm a quick and easy gal who loves to achieve superb results without a lot of fuss !!! You'll very quickly learn THAT ☺.

ADVANCED WEB WORKSHOPS ... Then when you want to explore MORE with me, you can continue with these sessions on Thursdays (morning and afternoon), and Saturday afternoons, **starting on Thu 18 and Sat 20 February.** Advanced programs will also continue after the Introductory sessions that start in February next year.

MISSED A SESSION? ... Plan WAS to record the Zoom workshops this year; but to do that, while at the same time concentrating on my presentation, proved hilarious. Recording with Zoom didn't happen. Instead? **YouTube is about to enter my life, and yours.** You will be able to catch up with all sessions – and lots more - via my channel, starting in late Feb 2021.

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2021 ... HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS in my Toowoomba Studio ... will recommence on Saturday 10 April with one of my most popular programs: “Basics and Beyond”, “Big and Beautiful”, and “Working with Metallics and Pearls”. Come for the day/s of your choice, or all four. I’m continuing with discounted prices, as well as extra discounts for multiple days. Check the ‘Events’ page of my website for full details.

Plan is then to continue hands-on programs here during the first and last weeks of the month, with Web Workshops on the other two weeks. My work bench will be a busy place! No time to gather dust that way eh !?!

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS away from Toowoomba ... Please send in expressions of interest for these now, then I’ll email the details to you as soon as I have the full program in place. Information will also be on the Events page of my website.

Events Postponed from 2020, to go ahead if Covid conditions permit in 2021 ...

- **Quilt Connect with Qld Quilters** – at the Mt Gravatt Showgrounds – has been CANCELLED for 2021.
- **Highfields Creative** – at the Smart Space, Highfields State School in July. New date to be advised.
- **Home Economics National Conference** – Brisbane Convention Centre, now Mon 27 till Wed 29 Sept 2021.
- **Toowoomba Quilters’ Exhibition** – at the Salo Centre, St Ursula’s College, during Carnival of Flowers in late September.
- **Brisbane Craft and Gift Fair** – Sleeman Sports Centre, Chandler – early October - dates to be confirmed.



WHAT’S COMING UP in EMBELLISH MAGAZINES? ...

Two topics that I’m sure you will enjoy! December issue has a crazily simple printing technique that produces the look of screen printed line work – no screens, no squeegees – no mess, no problems! In March next year we’re heading to Canada via the magazine. Our project will use the beautiful shape of the maple leaf to create stunning metallic colours and effects. Don’t miss this one.

Back issues with my previous articles are still available from us at **\$8.00 per magazine**. Magazines will be \$11.50 (newsagents price) from the September 2020 issue onwards – 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 ... “Fabric Transformations”

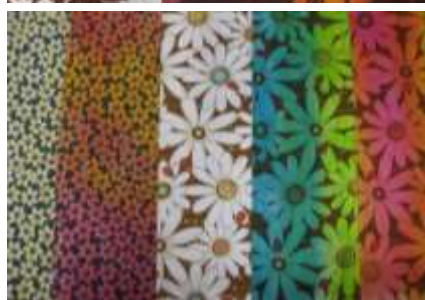


I have a question for you ... Do you have any fabrics in your stash that you look at and wonder why on earth you bought them? Or pieces that you thought would work perfectly for your project, but didn't?

Let’s not ONLY colour plain fabrics! Let’s delve into prints and patterned fabrics too, textured fabrics and embroidered ones ... see what you can find in your stash and give them a whole new lease of life!

POINTS TO KEEP IN MIND:

1. Wash fabrics that have been lurking in your cupboard a while to prepare them for colouring. Do not use fabric softener in the rinse water.
2. Fabrics can be coloured with Liquid Radiance using any of your favourite techniques – Five Finger Foam Brush, One Colour Colouring, Spray Painting – whatever you like really.
3. It’s best NOT to use ‘busy’ handling techniques like salting or heavy scrunching. These can ‘fight with’ the patterned fabric and detract from the results you are aiming to achieve. Mmmm, you want



to hide what you want to transform, not make it more obvious!
*One more question ... Have you ever thought how much cleaner our world would be if it weren't cluttered up with discarded wrapping paper at gift giving times? **Hand coloured fabrics make beautiful gift wrappings!** Colour some matching ribbons too. I’m sure there are plenty of odd bits hiding in your drawers. Your like-minded friends will enjoy using the ‘wrappings’ in their own sewing projects. And if your family members aren’t into creative things, sew the fabric into simple reusable bags for them – or ask them to return the fabrics to you! They’d most likely be throwing wrapping paper away anyway !!!*

Here’s to doing our bit for sustainability with safe, simple and economical goodies to play with !!!

Anne