

# At Play in the Garden of Stitch

A 5-day workshop devoted to free-motion quilting and composition.

Using stitch in artwork begins with an expressive line. Loosen up and explore new territory with line and stitch in this free-motion quilting workshop. Learn to focus on the character of line and personal symbols through simple drawing, composition and stitching exercises.

- **First we make a mess.** Begin to see that line is active and reactive.
- **Embrace the wonky.** Learn to make the most of whatever occurs by joining ideas to line motifs to see what develops.
- **Think in thread.** Translate visual stimuli into pathways by stitching in continuous line.
- **Cut it up!** Use your stitching samples to create unique compositions.

Participants will accumulate a toolbox of techniques for seeing, interpreting and completing concept-driven work. Build your stitching vocabulary and trust the thread to tell your story.

Open to all skill levels, free-motion quilting experience a plus.

If you have any additional questions about this class, below is the contact info for your instructor:  
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## MATERIALS LIST

**Sewing machine** with the ability to do free-motion quilting (double check that you have a free-motion foot that works)

### Fabric and batting

- 1.5 yards of Black Kona cotton fabric cut into 14" squares
- 1.5 yards of White or Ivory Kona cotton fabric cut into 14" squares.
- 3 yards of backing fabrics cut into 14" squares (solid or patterned, a mixture is fine)
- 14" x 14" squares of batting (any kind is fine but you may want to experiment with several kinds.)

### Thread

Your favorite brand of quilting thread in black and white and one spool of variegated black to white, (*I prefer YLI brand 100% Long staple cotton, TEX 40 or Aurafil Mako 40 wt cotton thread*)

3 bobbins pre-wound with black, white and variegated threads

### **A quilt you are willing to cut up (optional)**

Re-using quilts as raw materials can be liberating and challenging. We will be cutting up some of the stitch samples we create in class. But you can bring something of your own to play with too. We may even share with each other.

### Needles for your machine

I use 90/14 or 100/16 topstitch needles with 40 wt threads.

### Notions (your favorites)

- Chalk marker
- Scissors
- Rotary cutter

### Office supplies

- Journal, legal pad or diary to keep notes
- One fine-tip *dry erase* marker in black
- 2 Pilot Precise V5 pens in black
- A way to capture images: digital camera, computer tablet, smartphone.
- Your ideas and patience.