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Piece O' Cake Designs

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The Ground (as Seen from Above)

Lessons In Improvisational Art Quilting



Color, cut, sew, and improvise as you sew your own interpretation of the ground as seen from an airplane! The background in this quilt is composed of freely-cut pieces, sewn together into a patchwork field. The applique pieces are cut without a pattern and placed by eye on the background. Your confidence will grow as you master this approach to quiltmaking.

A 2-day class will be spent on color, design, background construction, and applique techniques.

Supply List

Book:

- The book Applique Outside the Lines by Piece O' Cake Designs.
- Optional – The New Appliqué Sampler by Piece O' Cake Designs

Fabric:

Choose 100% cotton fabric. Pre-wash your fabric (because it appliques better).

Background - A variety to total 2 1/4 to 3 yards

- Background fabrics should be similar in both color and value. Your background can be any color (it does not have to be green). While there is a limit to how much fabric you can bring to class, you will be happier if you have more, rather than fewer, choices.
- If you move quickly in class you may have time to work on the border in which case you will need some light or contrasting fabric choices.

Applique Fabric

- Bring a variety of large fabric scraps for the wheels and centers.

Basic Sewing Supplies:

- Something suitable for a design wall that is at least 40" x 60" **and** tape to hang it.

- A sewing machine in good working order that you *know how to use*. (I am unfortunately not a sewing machine mechanic.) You will use your machine for piecing the backgrounds. You don't need your biggest, most expensive machine.
- An extension cord and/or power strip.
- A rotary cutting mat, ruler and rotary cutter.
- Small, sharp paper scissors
- Small, sharp embroidery-sized fabric scissors
- You may or may not need to make a placement overlay. It will depend on how you want to work and you won't know until you are well into the class. It's a good idea to come with the vinyl in case you decide you want to use it. 2 yards of clear upholstery vinyl in a medium weight will be plenty. Bring the tissue paper that comes with the vinyl as well.

Note to international quilters: if you do not have access to upholstery vinyl, look for any plastic that is sturdy, but supple enough to fold and that you can pin through without it tearing. A clear, heavy-duty plastic painter's drop cloth might work.

- One sheet of clear, heavy weight, self-adhesive laminate – available at most office supply stores or on our website (pieceocake.com). Get the single-sided sheets, not the 2-sided pouches. Avoid repositionable laminate.
- An ultra fine point black Sharpie marker if you make an overlay.
- Longer pins to use with your design wall and in piecing.
- I will supply you with some needles and 1/2" sequin pins to use for applique in class. You will need some additional pins.
- The following 100% cotton threads are suitable for machine piecing and hand appliqué. I will have some on hand for you to try in your appliqué. You will need a spool of one of these for your machine piecing. I recommend Superior Masterpiece 50 weight, Aurifil 50 weight, DMC 50 weight machine embroidery thread, or Mettler 60 weight.
- A crewel needle and some size 8 perle cotton in colors to accent your applique fabric. We'll use this thread to make some playful applique stitches.
- If you decide to work from a template, you will need a white chalk pencil (I like the General's charcoal pencil in white, not in other colors) to use on darker fabrics or...
- A dark pencil to use on light fabrics. I like both the Sketch & Wash by General's and the Quilter's Ultimate Mechanical Pencil (.05 lead).
- A sandpaper board. If you don't have a sandboard, bring a sheet of fine grain sandpaper.
- A baggie for your templates
- **Optional** - A light and an extension cord in case the room is dark. I have no control over whether outlets will be available in the classroom - but we can hope that there will be!
- **Optional** - Many people find that applique is easier if they have a pillow in their lap to rest their forearms on. It's a good idea to bring a pillow to class for this purpose.

If you are unable to find any of the supplies on this list, please check with the shop that is offering the class or our website (pieceocake.com). You can email me at rebeccagoldsmith@mac.com and I'll do my best to make sure you have what you need for class.

