

Pixels to Pizzazz!!!: Freeform Computer Design for Quilters

3-5 day class for all levels at the Bryerpatch Studio

Leave your stash and your sewing machine at home, and bring your laptop and your drawing tools. This workshop combines the best of Caryl's Computer Design workshop with her freeform design class.

The goal in this workshop will be to learn to design and create a full size drawing for an original art quilt, which goes beyond the traditional grid format using the computer as part of the design process. We may also have fun designing and printing digital fabric.

What you need to know before you take this workshop:

- ~How to plug in your computer and make it work.
- ~Basic windows functions:
- ~ How to open and close programs, windows, and files.
- ~ How to save files.
- ~ How to use your mouse or track ball.
- ~ How to point, click, select, drag, copy, cut, and paste.
- ~How to switch between open programs.

On the first day of this class, Caryl will demonstrate many of the computer techniques she uses in designing her own quilts. She will lead you through a series of simple exercises so that you can try each of the functions of the program, and familiarize yourself with what it does and how it can be used in designing quilts. This will include freeform designs as well as square blocks. We will start with the simple, basic stuff, and build on that. You will have a chance to try each operation yourself before we move on to the next level.

On the second day we will work with original freeform designs. You will have a chance to scan your original doodles, sketches, and drawings into the computer so they can be manipulated and colored. If you have designs you want to work on, bring them along.

On the third day of the workshop you will have a chance to work on a design of your choice with Caryl there to coach and trouble shoot. The questions often arise when you start finding out what you really want to do with a program. Working through the whole process in the class will give you a chance to get your questions answered on the spot.

Caryl does her own work in Corel Graphics Suite 8. She also has Version 11, so she will be showing both. Many of the same functions can be done in other programs, but she is not familiar with all programs on the market.

Supplies Needed:

- ~ Drawing Tools: pen, good pencils, ruler, good eraser
- ~ Fine point and ultra fine point, indelible markers (black)
- ~ Paper Pad of Tracing Paper (thin, see-through paper)
- ~ 20-30 sheets of Plain White 8½" x 11" or A4 copier paper. This will be for printing, drawing, and taking notes.

Inspiration:

- ~ 2-3 Magazines or Books with colored pictures, preferably nature or science (ie. National Geographic, Scientific American, Smithsonian, etc.) (some will be available in the classroom)
- ~ Photographs you have taken that you would like to translate into quilt designs. (optional)

Hardware :



- ~ Computer (please bring one that has been your friend for a while) It needs to have a screen resolution of at least 1024x768 and an operating system compatible with Corel Draw (see requirements on the box the program comes in Corel, or on the Corel Website).
- ~ Mouse, track ball, or tablet (whatever gives you the most control) It will be difficult for you to draw if you are only using a touch pad. Please bring a mouse you are comfortable with and can use with good control.
- ~ Writable CD's or jump drive for sharing files.
- ~ Surge protector strip for plugging in your computer.

Software :

Some version of Corel Draw already installed on your computer. You don't need the latest and greatest version. Versions 8, 9, 10, or 11 will do nicely. Get the "graphics" version that includes Corel Draw and Corel Photo Paint rather than the "office" version. You can often find older versions of Corel on the internet at a greatly reduced price. Caryl will not necessarily be aware of all changes in the newest versions of the program.

If you are a MAC user, CorelDRAW® Graphics Suite 11 (2002) is the last version of Corel Draw designed for both Windows® and Macintosh®. If you can find a version that will operate on your MAC, please join us. Caryl is not familiar with all MAC functions, but does have an older MAC notebook with Corel Draw.

OPTIONAL

- ~ Digital Camera
- ~ Portable printer
- ~ Scanner
- ~ All in one scanner/printer (Caryl will have at least one in the class for you to use)

To see the computer design process used in several of Caryl's quilts, go to:

http://www.bryerpatch.com/gallery/computer_design_quilts.htm