

Portraits in Appliqué

JENNY BOWKER

This workshop will teach you to turn one of your own photographs into a fabric portrait. While the result looks complex, the process is step-by step and you will be amazed at your results. We use only tools which are easily available, and no drawing skills are necessary. All drawing is simple tracing.

We will have a meeting a couple of weeks before the class to discuss the type of image that you will work with – and I would prefer that you wait to take your photographs and choose your fabric after that meeting.

This image will be appliquéd using Vliesofix and soft edge appliqué because it is fast, but we will discuss different ways to appliqué during the workshop.

REQUIREMENTS LIST

Both days

A selection of photographs or images of faces

Images must be A4 for this class.

Please do not bring copyrighted images to class. Because I am being paid to teach you it means that I am the one who breaches the copyright law. Copyrighted images include anyone else's image - including paintings, postcards, photographs and prints and images in books or magazines.

Please, please check that you have each item on this list. Some items might take a bit more time to find. I have been careful to list everything that you absolutely have to have and I do not carry spare equipment when I teach away from Canberra.

I suggest you wait until after the meeting to select your fabrics

Fine Overhead Projector pen, permanent and black, as it must be able to write on acetate (not water soluble). Bring two as they run out easily.

One sheet of Acetate (A4) - in newsagents as Overhead Projection Transparency

One piece of tracing paper (A1) This large size sheet should also be at your newsagents or art supply shop. It should be firm and strong and slightly milky. A2 is the same size as four sheets of computer paper put together. A1 is twice that size.

Do not use greaseproof or thin opaque paper as it is not strong enough.

Scissors for cutting fabric AND scissors for cutting paper. Small sharp scissors are also very useful.

HB pencil

Your iron

Power boards and extension leads if the organiser does not supply them

A good sized sheet of Glad Bake to protect your iron from the Vliesofix

Ruler

Masking tape

An old flat sheet, preferably cotton - the biggest you have and pale if possible. This will be used as a dense ironing pad, folded on the table in front of you - so DO NOT substitute a plastic tablecloth or anything else.

A good, broad selection of fabrics in the colour and value ranges you are likely to want. You will be very surprised how dark the darks are. Look hard at the colour in your photograph and try to find the exact shades. Tone on tone fabrics like those in Jinny Beyer's palette or fossil ferns will be more useful than strong or big prints. Even small pieces of fabric can be useful. Hand dyes can be wonderful if you have any. If you have sky in your image you will need a piece of fabric as wide as your sheet of tracing paper.

60 cm of good quality calico, Quilter's muslin or homespun, prewashed - lightweight is easier to trace through. This will be your foundation.

70cm of wide Vliesofix, full width and largest size - do not fold it but keep it flat or rolled.

FOR THE SECOND DAY ONLY

***Sewing machine** in good working order. Please be sure that you are familiar with your machine.

***Free motion darning or quilting foot.** Useful if you have it but you can cope without.

***Smoke and clear monofilament thread** – but a good quality one please. Be advised by the shop.

MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL - a sense of fun and adventure and a willingness to stretch your skills.

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