

# Layered Surface Design: The Hand-Made Stitch on with Hand-Dyed Cloth

5-Day Workshop with Lisa Binkley

[lsbinkley@gmail.com](mailto:lsbinkley@gmail.com) • [www.lisabinkley.com](http://www.lisabinkley.com)

Dates: Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup> – Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (9am-4pm)

Materials Fee: \$15

**Workshop Description:** There is enormous potential in the interplay of patterns and textures found on hand-dyed fabrics and in hand stitching with beads and threads. In this workshop students explore contemporary mark making and texture making through hand embroidery using a wide variety of stitches with beads, embroidery threads, and other embellishments on hand-dyed fabrics.

Class time is a mixture of design exploration, learning and utilizing a wide variety of hand-made stitches, sharing what we have learned and created with one another, and viewing examples of bead embroidery and contemporary hand embroidery on hand-dyed fabrics. Examples will be provided in physical form, in print, and digitally for inspiration and technique illustration. We will explore design considerations such as creating translucent overlays of pattern and texture, embellishing lines and found patterns within the hand-dyed fabrics, and various techniques for highlighting some fabric areas while obscuring or transforming others. Special attention is given to the interaction of bead and thread finish/texture and fabric pattern(s).

Each student will take home an art quilt, embellished cloth collage, or wearable art piece that contains the stitches and design principles explored. They will also take home a detailed booklet with information about stitches, bead and thread selection, and other important information for continued exploration of bead and thread embroidery on these special fabrics.

Materials fee provides students with workshop booklet and some beads and embroidery threads. I will put together a more detailed supply list for students as well. **All levels welcome. Comfort with a needle and thread is helpful.**

## **Supply List:**

- A variety of hand-dyed fabric pieces that you would like to consider including in your fiber art. These pieces can be as small as 1" or so in each direction or as large as about ½ yard. They can be heavily patterned or subtly patterned; a mix is ideal. Think shibori-dyed fabrics, hand-dyed fabrics with streaks or splashes of color, dye-painted fabrics, etc. **Make sure you can hand stitch a needle through the fabrics fairly easily.**
- A few solid or near solid fabrics that harmonize with your hand-dyed fabrics. A total of about 1 yard is plenty (you may end up using this to back your work).

- If you are a quilter and would like to make your project into a quilt, bring about 1 yd. of thin batting (cotton, bamboo/rayon, or any type that works well with hand stitching).
- If you aren't a quilter or don't want to create a quilt, consider bringing about 1 yd. of cotton flannel or another fabric to back your fiber art. If you want to make a garment, bring the garment pattern with you as well as enough fabric to back your work.
- Embroidery threads in colors that harmonize with your fabric(s). *They may be solid or variegated and should cover a range of values and color saturation:*
  - At least 3 colors of Perle/Pearl cotton in sizes 8 and/or 12 (Valdani, Anchor, DMC, etc.)  
More colors are welcome.
  - At least 3 colors of stranded cotton embroidery floss (DMC, Caron Collection, etc.)
  - Embroidery needles in several sizes to accommodate thicknesses from a single strand of DMC floss to the size 8 pearl cotton (e.g., size 5-7 embroidery needles or milliner's needles and size 24 chenille needles)
  - Optional: 1-2+ colors of silk embroidery floss/thread and other threads that interest you
- Beads and beading supplies that harmonize with your fabric(s). *Make sure that at least some of your beads are opaque (not all transparent/translucent) and that some are matte-finish (not all shiny/sparkly):*
  - 3-5+ colors of size 11 seed beads in a variety of finishes (matte, shiny, pearly, iridescent, etc.) and values (light, medium, dark). One hank, tube, or 1 oz. box of each color is plenty. More colors is fine.
  - 1-3 colors of bugle beads in a variety of lengths from size 1 through size 3 or longer. One hank, tube, or 1 oz. box of each should be plenty.
  - 2-3+ colors of larger seed beads (e.g., sizes 6 and 8); one hank/container of each
  - At least 1 color size 15 seed beads; one hank/container
  - A few novelty beads in shapes and colors that harmonize with your fabrics
  - At least 1 spool beading thread (Nymo, C-Lon, K.O., or One-G in "D" weight) in a neutral color or colors that blend with your fabric color(s)
    - Size 10 and 12 beading needles (a few of each; can be short or long)
    - A cloth or shallow dish to hold loose beads

- Fabric scissors
- A few rulers designed for quilters/fiber artists (approx. 6" - 24")
- Sewing/straight pins for pinning fabrics together
- A dozen or more safety pins if you like to pin-baste your work
- Fabric marking tools such as chalk pencils
- **Optional** Supplies:
  - Embroidery hoop(s) that can hold your quilt/fabric while stitching (e.g. 6", 10")
  - A small sketch pad
  - A few drawing materials (e.g., pencil, pen, fine-point markers, etc.)