Supply List for Fused Art Collage from Photographs with Sandra Mollon

- Misty Fuse fusible web: I prefer this type because it doesn't seem to build up in your machine, or make your needle gummy, or make the finished quilt rock hard like a piece of cardboard. You will want at least 4-5 yards.
- Freezer Paper: You will need enough freezer paper to trace your entire image on. If your enlargement is bigger than the 18" wide freezer paper, you will need to tape pieces together — butt up — don't overlap (use beige masking tape) to make a big enough piece.
- A travel size iron and ironing mat
- Table-top light

Getting Started: If you are working from your own photograph, be sure you have selected one to use that you would enjoy making, with clear details (good resolution), and a subject that would be interesting. Unless you have taken a class with me before, and have become very comfortable with the process, I recommend a simple subject. What is a simple subject? One with significantly less details. Look at the rocks above — while the subject matter is wonderful, it doesn't have lots and lots of tiny fabric changes. If you are unsure about your image and want advice, please email the photo (at least 3 weeks in advance if possible) to me.

I highly recommend that you email me your images if you have never done this process. Please limit the number of images you send to your 2 or 3 favorites. Use the email address below: sandra@sandramollonquilts.com

NOTE: Please DO NOT choose a full facial portrait for your first collage, or a white-on-white flower or set of buildings. Those subjects are a bit more difficult and require many subtle value changes which are harder to see and often hard to find fabrics for.

If you have previously done an in-person workshop with me and are confident, feel free to do whatever subject you are comfortable with. If you are using someone else's photo, you should get permission from them before you start. I often will get that in writing, as I usually enter my quilts in large shows, which may require a written permission.

Once you have selected your photo, you will need to print out the photo **in color** in whatever size you want the finished quilt to be (Hint: Larger pieces are often easier to work from than smaller pieces which can be tedious to cut.) Many of my quilts are made 48" x 36" in size. I do most of my poster enlargements at **VistaPrint.com.** Find the tab for posters, select your size and orientation, and upload your image. I try to buy the cheapest type (semi-gloss) available in full color. If the resolution is poor, they will usually not allow it to be used — so choose another image.

Additionally, I have used **Blockposters.com** — the website has step by step instructions to enlarging your picture and printing it out on copy paper in tiles — which are regular paper size. When printed you can trim and tape the individual sheets together in the finished size you selected. More tiles = larger image. If you choose to have your image printed locally, it is important to ask about paper thickness. Thinner paper has the advantage of being easier to trace through on a light box and also is inexpensive.

Please do not try and work from a grayscale enlargement. You can use blueprint paper (it works great!) but in color. You can also print a good copy of the photograph on photo paper (about 8 x 10" is fine), as a reference photo for color correction to have nearby, in case your enlargement is not color correct or bring an iPad or tablet.

To use your time wisely in class, I recommend doing the tracing in advance of the workshop. I have a video link ready to email to all participants at least one month prior to the workshop. This video covers selecting an image, choosing fabrics, and tracing. Tracing what lines and shapes of the image that you can see is an important step in the process. If your image is wider than 18" in any direction, you may need to use masking tape to tape a second sheet of freezer paper butted up next to the first.

Place your photo on a light box or taped to the window. Carefully trace every shape and value change using a pencil. Bring the enlargement to the workshop along with the traced drawing on freezer paper. If you do not get your tracing completed in advance you may want to bring a light box to use at the workshop.