



Quilters' Connection

QC Winter Workshop Saturday, February 6, 2021

PM

Kantha: Hand-stitched Quilting Traditions from India

Carol Anne Grotrian

Expand your quilting vocabulary with Kantha. Originating in India, recycled fabrics are layered and patched with hand sewn running stitches that fill all spaces. Because batting is minimal or non-existent, stitches create ripples and shadows that change with the direction of sewing lines. Designs can remain improvisational and abstract or they can include simple embroidered figurative elements. Traditional kanthas tell a story or say something about the maker, whether exotic myths, peacocks and elephants or domestic flowers, spoons and ducks. We can adapt images, make up our own stories and replace some of the embroidery with raw edge appliqué. Design ideas will be provided.

Materials (Small projects are probably best for experimenting. Perhaps 10 x 14 to 18 x 24 inches.)

A variety of fabrics can be used but remember we'll be hand stitching layers.

—scraps for the “top”

—**light weight** batting or flannel or just a layer of a cotton fabric for the middle

—fabric for a backing

Thread in various colors (tradition includes but isn't limited to red & black)

—sashiko thread (my favorite)

—which is about the same as #8 crochet thread

—embroidery floss

—or experiment with what you have

Needle (to suit your thread)

Thimble (optional but advisable)

Scissors

Straight Pins

Safety Pins (to “baste” layers OR spray baste OR fabric glue OR baste with needle & thread)

Tracing Paper (helpful in transferring designs) or paper to cut out designs

Pencil

Ruler

Prior to Class:

—Bring a design idea. If using appliquéd shapes, bring patterns drawn on paper for figures you've chosen.

—Optional: baste a sandwich (top of patches, middle layer and backing), so you're ready to stitch.

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