



Color Play: Beyond Color Theory (Full-Day)

Length of Workshop: 6 hours

Skill Level: All

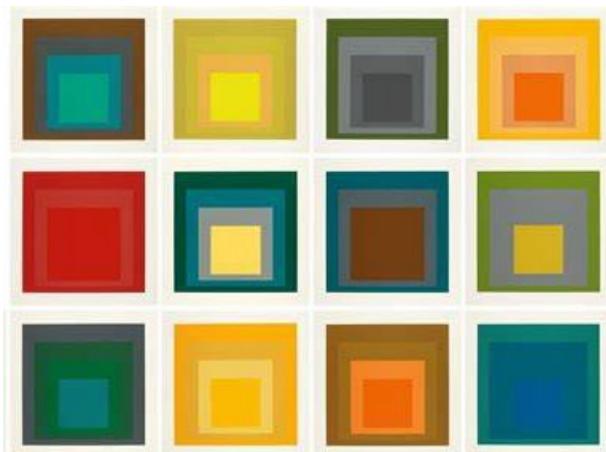
Our quilts teach us so much, don't they?

Over the course of the last 25 years, my gem quilts have taught me ways to help them sparkle and glow. They've shown me the power of value contrast, saturation contrast, asymmetry, and transparency.

I knew nothing about these ideas when I made my first gem. It was only by playing with color and seeing how they *interacted* with one another that I learned the best ways to make my quilts shine.

In my new class *Color Play: Beyond Color Theory*, I'll share what I've learned about how to add sparkle and radiance to your quilt designs. No matter your design inspiration – whether it be landscapes, flowers, portraits, animals, abstracts, or gems – these concepts translate to all types of work.

This class encourages experimentation in an environment of joyful exploration and play. When it comes to color *there are no wrong answers!* We all see color differently. Different things make our heart sing. And I'll give you tools to make that happen.



Using strips of solid fabrics in a rainbow of colors, values, and saturation, we'll create "color windows", 12" blocks of concentric squares that showcase these concepts. By the end of our time together, you'll have a variety of blocks to begin a quilt top in the style of iconic artist and professor Josef Albers' series *Homage to the Square*.



Supplies:

- Sewing machine in good working order (remember your power cord!)
- Rotary cutter, mat, and rulers (18" is a good size)
- Basic sewing supplies: scissors, pins, needles
- Iron and pressing surface
- Thread in a neutral color and medium value (medium to light gray, beige, etc.)
- Fabric (*Important: We're only going to use solids in this class. I know it's tempting to bring your favorite prints, batiks, ombres, and hand-dyed fabrics, but please save them for the next spectacular quilt you're going to make!*)

Below is a description of the type and quantity of fabric I'd like you to bring to class. Don't worry too much about following the description below to a "T", and because we'll share our strips with one another, don't worry that you won't have enough. We'll literally end up with a mountain of fabric to choose from! I'll bring the white and black strips.

- 2"-wide strips 18" in length made from 10 solid color fat-quarters in a variety of hue, value, and saturation. In other words...
 - **Decide on 2 main hues and select a light, medium, and dark fat-quarter in each hue.** For example, if you decided on RED and GREEN as your hues, select a pink, medium red, and dark burgundy. Then select a light green, Kelly green, and deep green. *Congratulations! You've just picked out your first 6 fat quarters!*
 - **Add a fat-quarter in those hues that is the brightest you can find.** For example, you might add a bright fuchsia or a fire-engine red, as well as a bright acid green or an intense parrot green. *You've got 2 more fat-quarters picked out!*
 - **Add a fat-quarter of those hues that is very dull.** For example, you might pick a deep smoky red and a grayish green. *You've just added 2 more fat-quarters for a total of 10.*
- If the process above sounds like too darn much work, here's an easy-peasy solution: visit your local independent fabric shop and find a Jelly Roll bundle of solid strips that you love. Jelly Rolls are typically 2.5" wide and that's perfectly OK.