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## Art + Quilt: Design Principles and Creativity Exercises

Lyric Kinard

Loveland, Colo.: Anyone can create impressive art quilts just by applying basic principles of art and design. Master quilter Lyric Kinard shares in her debut book, **Art + Quilt** (Interweave, September 2009, \$26.95), her secrets for quilting success through a variety of techniques, exercises, and insider tips to inspire novice quilters and experienced textile artists to make genuine works of art.

Lyric Kinard, on “How to Use this Book”: *This book. . . will not teach you everything you need to know about art. It will, I hope, give you a solid foundation from which to spring and give you direction for further study. It will give you the tools, if you are willing to take the time to learn to use them. The exercises in this book will help you understand the elements and principles that make up the visual language of art. You will learn to see the world the way an artist sees it.*

Simplifying the basic fundamentals of art and teaching the underlying principles of the visual language, **Art + Quilt** explores texture, shape, line, color, and value with examples and hands-on exercises. Essential principles—such as focal point, balance, repetition, scale, and space—are paired with creativity exercises while guest essays, guest artwork, and inspiring artwork from the author allow readers to analyze how other artists utilize key artistic elements or principles and see how to successfully use these elements in their own work.

Lyric Kinard, on “Becoming an Artist”: *Learning the fundamental elements of art and principles of design is just like learning to read and write. These basic building blocks will help you to understand and more fully enjoy the world of art. They will help you get that creative vision out of your head and onto canvas, paper, or fabric. You may have already mastered many sewing and quilting techniques but lack the confidence to create your own original work. It's as though you have perfect penmanship without knowing how to read. It's never too late to learn your “alphabet,” put together words, and practice your reading line by line until you can create visual poetry with your fabric and thread. Remember, Athena was born a goddess. We mere mortals must learn our craft one step at a time.*

**Art + Quilt** is both a personal creativity coach and a guide for a hobbyist or professional artist. This reference clarifies quilting goals and takes the craft to the next level through design and composition.

**ART + QUILT: DESIGN PRINCIPLES AND CREATIVITY EXERCISES**

Lyric Kinard

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8½ x 10¼ • hardcover with concealed wire-o • 136 pages • 200 photographs

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**About the author:** Lyric Kinard creates award-winning wall quilts and wearable works of arts. She has studied with many well known textile artists around the country and continues to expand her skills in the area of surface design. Her articles have appeared in Quilting Arts magazine and she recently

completed her first video, *Quilting Arts Workshop: Surface Design*. She lives in Cary, North Carolina with her husband and five children. Author web site: <http://www.lyrickinard.com>

## **Art + Quilt Table of Contents**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Just as everyone can learn to read, everyone can learn the basic elements of design and open the door to being an artist. You can learn to appreciate and create art if you are taught a step at a time.

### **CHAPTER 1: IT'S ALL IN YOUR HEAD...MAKE THAT HEART!**

OPEN YOUR HEART AND MIND- Why do you say "I can't" Did someone some time say you couldn't draw? Are you comparing your talent to a professional who has spent thousands of hours learning and practicing their art? You have to change "I can't" to "I'm willing to try!" I'll be your cheerleader, shouting and encouraging and cheering you on every step of the way. You need to give yourself permission to learn one step at a time. Guest essay - Overcoming Fear (Janine leBlanc)

### **CHAPTER 2: LEARNING THE ALPHABET**

Introduction to the Elements of Design: We'll begin by learning the alphabet of art. The basic elements of design are the letters that artists use to create words, paragraphs, stories and poetry. We'll start at the beginning and work up from the sounds and shapes of letters, to the combinations that make words and sentences. We'll give you the tools for your belt and show you how to use them.

### **CHAPTER 3: LETTERS MAKE WORDS**

Next comes putting the basic design elements we have learned about together. We've learned what the letters are and now we can put them together to create some sort of basic meanings... the beginning of words. Learn to use your creative tools from Chapter 2 to create beautiful compositions.

### **CHAPTER 4: HOMEWORK/ASSIGNMENTS**

Student gallery examples for the following creativity exercises. Kids go to school every day and do (seemingly endless) grammar exercises and write countless essays. They learn through practice to not only appreciate great writing but begin to write themselves. A few with the fire in their heart or language go on to write novels and poetry. If you have the fire in your heart for art you need to spend your time practicing. You also need to practice a new way of thinking. Even if you can't bring yourself to say it just take as long a time as you can spare each day and "pretend" you are an artist. It's always been amazing to me how children will live up to our expectations of them. Set your expectations for yourself high!

### **CHAPTER 5: CREATING YOUR MASTERPIECE**

Now What!? Shakespeare didn't write Romeo and Juliet when he was six years old! He probably progressed just like the rest of us by writing a lot of awkward verses and rambling essays and letters. He practiced until he developed the skills necessary to become one of the great writers in the English language. Now it's your turn.

## **About Interweave**

Interweave, a unit of Aspire Media, is one of the nation's largest and most respected arts and craft media companies, with businesses in magazine and book publishing, online media, television and video programming, directories, and events. The Interweave Publishing Group features 18 subscription magazines and many more special interest newsstand publications sold on newsstands nationwide. Interweave has more than 250 books in print and annually publishes about 40 how-to books on the same subjects as the company's magazines. Additionally, Interweave produces several major events for fiber and bead, gem, and jewelry making enthusiasts and has an extensive Internet network of more than 30 websites and daily e-mail newsletters. Interweave is the proud sponsor of three craft television series airing on PBS: *Quilting Arts TV*, a fresh, contemporary quilting program, *Beads, Baubles, & Jewels*, public television's only how-to program for beading and jewelry making enthusiasts, and public television's newest show for knitting and crochet enthusiasts, *Knitting Daily TV*.

Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colorado and other offices in New York, New York, Malvern, Pennsylvania, Santa Fe, New Mexico, San Diego, California and Stow, Massachusetts. For more information on Interweave, visit [www.interweave.com](http://www.interweave.com) or call (970) 669-7672.

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