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Freestyle Machine Embroidery Techniques and Inspiration for Fiber Art Carol Shinn

Explore the possibilities of freestyle machine embroidery for quilting and fiber art with ***Freestyle Machine Embroidery: Techniques and Inspiration for Fiber Art*** (Interweave, May 2009, \$29.95), a guide for all skill levels that reviews the basic methods and stitches for each technique with step-by-step photographs and illustrations from start to finish.

Embroiderers and fiber artists will expand their knowledge of the craft with diagrams, close-ups of sample swatches, troubleshooting tips, and design guidance for taking the craft to an artistic level. This technique-driven guide takes readers from the basics of the stitching process to using color and texture creatively in designs to professionally finishing a project.

Chapters cover understanding the process of freestyle machine embroidery, color mixing, the artist's step-by-step process for making an embroidery, adding variety, and using freestyle machine embroidery as an artistic medium. Appendices offer information on setting up workspace and equipment, basic color information, reproportioning artwork for embroidery, and distortion. Vibrant, close-up photography, stitch diagrams, and techniques coupled with step-by-step instruction make this book an invaluable resource for stitchers.

Begin with an introduction to the process of freestyle machine embroidery, including supplies needed, thread tension adjustment, understanding fabric distortion as it relates to stitching direction, and how to care for a sewing machine. Then learn color mixing with thread to create visual interest in artwork, plus the author's thought process behind image choice and design, the details of stitching imagery, presentation, and problem solving. Readers will learn to add variety to their work with various machine-stitched textures and combining freestyle stitching with different materials and techniques. And finally, a gallery of artists' work using freestyle machine embroidery is featured.

While instructions and samples encourage beginners, advanced embroiderers will find ideas and techniques to expand and enrich their work. ***Freestyle Machine Embroidery*** is an indispensable guide for every textile artist's personal library.

FREESTYLE MACHINE EMBROIDERY: TECHNIQUES AND INSPIRATION FOR FIBER ART

Carol Shinn

Interweave • May 2009 • \$29.95

8½ x 10¼ • paperback • 192 pages • 215 photographs • 20 illustrations

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About the author: Carol Shinn is a studio artist from Tempe, Arizona, known internationally for photo-realistic machine-stitched images. She holds a BFA from the University of Colorado and a MFA from Arizona State University. She has taught many classes and workshops across the country, including at schools such as Arrowmont, Penland, and Haystack, and her work can be found in numerous public and private collections.

Her work has been featured in such publications as *American Craft*, *Embroidery*, *Fiberarts*, *Georgia Review*, and *Surface Design Journal* and in books such as *The Nature of Craft and the Penland Experience*, *Discovery: 50 Years of Craft Experience at Haystack Mtn. School of Craft*, *Celebrating the Stitch*, *Fiberarts Design Book Six*, and *Fiberarts Design Book Seven*.

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 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 or call (970) 669-7672.

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