



colorplay

Even though I hold a degree in art and have spent countless hours studying color theory, I still often dive into a new project without the slightest clue as to which colors to use. I feel confident in my ability to pair colors while embroidering and painting, but beading is a whole new realm—the transparency, finish (from AB to matte iris), and reflective qualities of beads often throw textbook theories out the window. I know many of you have experienced this—and other color-related challenges—as you’ll see in the questions submitted by readers in Margie’s Guide to Fearless Colorplay (page 58). In this feature, Margie Deeb offers her expert advice in her answers to your questions, plus reveals valuable tips for all beaders.

Our project contributors for this issue also share great advice for working with color. Learn how they approach the subject on page 8 and flip through the entire issue to see how they have translated their methods into beaded projects. Jane Lock’s Paisley Drops earrings show us how important it is to play with color; see her studies in complementary, analogous, and monochromatic colors on page 68. Another of my favorites this issue is Heather Kahn’s Star Fruit Bracelet. Her smart selection of crystal colors and triangle-weave construction results in a graceful ombre-style design (page 50).

Let many more projects with dazzling and intriguing color combinations presented in this issue inspire your end-of-summer beading. And if you’re ready to dive into a more ambitious beading project, see the announcement of our exciting new contest below.

Have fun,

Melinda Barta :: beadwork@interweave.com

Announcing Beadwork VII: THE BEADED EARTH

Beadwork is pleased to invite you to enter our seventh juried exhibition, Beadwork VII: The Beaded Earth. Whether you find inspiration in your favorite flora or fauna, a cherished vacation spot, or a map of your travels, let the natural wonders of our world guide your next beaded creation. Deadline for entries is February 25, 2011. Select entries will be published in an upcoming issue of *Beadwork* and displayed at Bead Fest Philadelphia in 2011. Visit beadworkmagazine.com/thebeadedearth.com for more contest information.

Winning Designs that Spark Inspiration

Celebrate the legacy of past entries from Beadwork IV–VI in our 13-month 2011 calendar, *Beadwork: A Year in Beads*, available at interweavestore.com for \$14.95.



Little Green Bird by Bonnie Van Steen, Beadwork IV: The Beaded Figure; entry featured in *Beadwork: A Year in Beads* 2011 calendar.

HAPPENINGS

Bead Fest Philadelphia. Take classes, make new friends, shop till you drop, and more at Bead Fest Philadelphia, August 18–22.

NEW Show—Bead Fest Texas! Join us at Bead Fest Texas in Arlington, Texas, October 1–3, for all the great classes and shopping you’ve come to expect from Bead Fest.

Classes for shows fill fast, so be sure to sign up now at beadfest.com.

BEADWORK

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