## THE THREE C'S - COLOR, CONTRAST & COMPOSITION IN IMPROVISATIONAL QUILTING

## **GENERAL SUPPLY LIST**

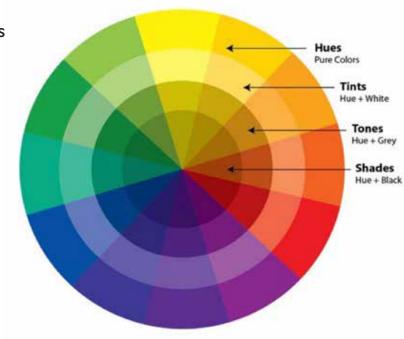
- Sewing machine, thread and needles
- Cutting mat (bigger is better)
- Rotary cutter and fresh blades
- Chalk pencils to mark fabrics
- Scissors for fabric and paper
- Notebook and pen to make notes
- Batting for design wall
- Travel iron (optional as ironing stations will be available)
- Phone to take photographs
- Seam ripper
- Pins
- Seam roller
- Rulers as needed

## **FABRIC SUPPLIES**

Color and contrast are primary focuses of this design workshop. With a wider array of fabric colors, your design options will be richer and opportunities for experimentation greater. You may not use all of the fabrics that you bring, but having a broad palette of options will allow flexibility.

Aim to bring a minimum of 10 yards of fabric with a variety of at least 30 colors (fat quarter sized or larger). More is fine. Bring bigger cuts of some fabrics. Solids are easier to blend, but low volume patterns are also fine.

• Range of hues. In choosing fabrics, bring a range of hues - e.g., red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. Try to bring a spectrum of brights and flat tones. For example, if you are bringing reds, you might include: cherry red, deep burgundy, brick red, rust, orange-red, and pinker shades. Try NOT to bring only coordinated tints (colors mixed with different ratios of white). You do not need to bring equal quantities of each hue.



• Light and dark neutrals. Light and dark neutrals are essential to offset more brilliant tones. Options include a range of creams, tans, grays and browns. White and black are strong colors with a different impact; bring them if they fit your aesthetic.

• Darks and lights. Contrast between light and dark creates compositional depth. Bring a variety of darker and lighter fabrics. Lay out your fabric collection and take a black and white photo to verify a grayscale range. Often there is an over-abundance of middle tones and a lack of contrast on either end of the spectrum.

• Class Scrap Pile. Please bring a gallon-sized bag of solid cotton scraps that you are willing to donate to a "class scrap pile." Scraps should be at least 5" x 5". Try to include a range of colors - be adventurous with your inclusions!

## SUGGESTED READING & LISTENING

These sources provide insight on the creative process and ways in which artists in different media integrate their life experience, understanding of the world and their personal artistic aesthetic. Improvisation is discussed in a range of ways and provides a basis for us to think about our work as quilters and textile artists. Books and audio files are available for sale online, in stores as well generally available through public library loan.

Miracle and Wonder: Conversations with Paul Simon Malcolm Gladwell (Author, Narrator); Original recording

*Your Brain on Art: How the Arts Transform Us* Susan Magsamen, Ivy Ross

*The Creative Act: A Way of Being* Rick Rubin

*@mini.artzone* Instagram account which demonstrates paint color mixing and the "ingredients" and ratios that make different hues