

**KERBY SMITH**

## **CREATING MEMORY QUILTS WITH DIGITAL FABRIC**

### **Supplemental Information and Supply Lists**

The focus of this class is merging digital fabric along with other fabrics from your stash to make your memory quilt top. Whether you scan old photos or bring digital pictures from a special occasion or recent trip, you will use the DQ System as described in our book, *Secrets of Digital Quilting from Camera to Quilt* to make fabric for your quilt top.

You do not need a printer or laminated fabric for printing on for the class. However, some students have brought their printers to class to get help in setting them up for printing at home with their own fabric sheets.

You will not need a scanner if you are going to scan old photos in class. A scanner will be available in class. If you are scanning your own photographs before class, make sure that you scan at high resolution (360 ppi at the size you want the print to be). If you have questions on scanning prior to the class, please contact the instructor.

If you have printed fabric before and not gotten the results you want, bring samples of your digital fabric to the class. Be sure to bring notes that tell us what fabric you used and what printer you used to print it. We will be glad to discuss any issues you may have had with printing fabric.

Your lab fee includes the printing of your fabric on our Epson printer with archival Ultrachrome inks. It also includes the laminated fabric that we will use to print your files for the construction of your quilt top. Time permitting, we will be glad to print more fabric for you for a small fee.

The class will cover digital quilt design basics with particular attention on integrating digital fabrics with other fabrics to create your own beautiful, interesting and unique memory quilt tops. We will use easy fusing techniques for creating the top but students are encouraged to use any techniques in their quilt tool box for assembly of their top.

Digital Images - Here is one simple thing to remember: to have digital files with enough quality to print on fabric, you need a digital camera with a minimum resolution of 6 Megapixels. There are many settings on digital cameras for recording your images. You want to use the images that were recorded at the highest quality with the largest file size. Usually this means you get the least amount of images on your memory card.

The following is based on working with our students in previous classes. The most challenging thing we have seen our students encountering in class is the speed of their computer. The students with older, slower computers are frustrated because they are waiting for their computers to process the steps as they follow us in the class exercises.

### **Computer Recommendations:**

1. A laptop or desktop computer with the latest version of Adobe Photoshop Elements and good anti-virus software loaded on it.
2. A flash drive or thumb drive that plugs into USB2 port on your computer: it needs to be at least 2 GB in size. The flash drive will be used to save digital files if you scan in class. When you are ready to print, you will hand us your target or print files on your flash drive. We will return your flash drive and fabric to you after it is printed.
3. Power Supply for your laptop computer, surge protector and extension cord.
4. We recommend that you bring your original Photoshop Elements installation disk with you in case you have a problem and need to re-install the program.
5. A card reader to download your photos to your computer. Please note: many laptop computers have on board card readers for the smaller or thinner memory cards like SD cards. If your camera uses the larger CF cards, you will need an external card reader.

### **Design and Construction Supply List:**

1. Desktop light
2. Electrical strip with surge protector
3. Sheet to cover your table at night
4. Rotary cutter, mat, and ruler
5. Paper and fabric scissors
6. FABRIC: For your memory quilt top, bring as much fabric as you want to carry, choosing fabrics that will work with the digital fabrics you plan to print. If you are flying, the Cotton Patch shop is onsite to offer many fabric choices.
7. FUSERS: You will need fusible web or spray if this is your preferred method of construction. For you, a sewing machine and basic sewing machine kit may be optional.
8. PIECERS: Sewing machine and basic sewing machine kit will be needed for those who want to use standard piecing techniques, as well as for those who want to machine appliqué.

**ENTRY SURVEY: REQUIRED – Please go online to our website [www.thedigitalquilt.com](http://www.thedigitalquilt.com) and fill out the Entry Survey. Filling out the Entry Survey is a requirement for this class.** We tailor each class to the skill level and needs of the students, and your answers from the survey allow us to make the class the best it can be for you.

You need intermediate computer skills and you will find it useful to have a basic knowledge of Adobe Photoshop Elements.

If you want to ask more specific equipment questions, feel free to e-mail us at [class@thedigitalquilt.com](mailto:class@thedigitalquilt.com).