WORKSHOPS

www.mariashell.com mariashell4@gmail.com

@mariashellart

WORKSHOPS

MAKING PRINTS

Students will learn how to improvisionally piece an assortment of prints—stripes, dots, tracks, and plaids. While learning how to build these new units, students will also be given information about working with solids fabrics, fine craft piecing techniques, and ideas for taking these units and creating original quilt compositions.

CIRCLE AND CURVE SAMPLER

A complete discussion of all the ways you can improvisation-ally PIECE circles and curves. From braided curves to log cabin circles, students will be led through a series of demos about non-linear improvisational piecing techniques and ideas for taking these techniques and creating original quilts. During the class, students create a collection of circle and curve quilt blocks—great for a sampler.

PERFECTLY POINTLESS—IMPROV TRIANGLES

The triangle is an elegant shape that can be used to create dynamic quilts. This workshop covers all manner of triangles and ways to improvisation-ally cut and piece them into patchwork art. There is a special focus on working stripes and other prints to create triangles as well as an in-depth exploration of how different angles create different final units.

ON THE GRID-LINEAR BLOCKS

Students will be exposed to an assortment of traditional quilt blocks built with line and ways to individualize these blocks through cutting, color placement, repetition of block, and bit making. Students will also be given information about working with solid colored fabrics, piecing techniques, and ideas for taking their quilt blocks and creating original quilts.

KITCHEN SINK QUILTING—The ART of Making Do

All leftover fabric, UFO'S, orphan blocks, and random strips of fabric are welcome in this class. We'll take those pieces of what not and make them into fun improvisational master-pieces. The focus of this workshop is on using up left-overs, bit making (creating small improvisation-ally cut and pieced traditional quilt blocks and units), and composition.

RIFFING ON TRADITION—Exploring Design Elements with Quilt Blocks

In this workshop, we combine the basic design elements of art with the traditional quilt block to create interesting, new, and dynamic quilt units. The workshop begins with a pre-

sentation of design elements—line, shape, pattern, composition, motion, and color. We will look at a variety of quilts from all traditions of quilt making to see how individual makers use design elements to create original quilt compositions. From there, students will begin to stitch their own quilt blocks based on design elements.

BITS & PIECES—DESIGNING FROM THE SCRAP BAG

\$35 Materials Fee (this includes a curated scrap bag, handouts, and shipping)
This workshop is for scrap-a-holics. Learn how to shape, sort, and piece your fabric bits into art quilt masterpieces. While learning how to work with bits and pieces, students will also be given information about improvisational piecing techniques and ideas for taking these techniques and creating original quilts.

GAME OF IMPROV

Improv piecing is a method of creating that involves work, chance, technique, exploration, and tenacity. We are going to explore all of these things within the perimeters of a game. Roll the dice, spin the wheel, pick your category. This workshop is a full exploration of letting go of expectations and embracing the unknown.

ADVANCED WORKSHOPS

AROUND THE BEND-DESIGNING WITH CURVES

Advanced workshop for students who are ready to create original compositions that emphasis curvilinear shapes. This workshop takes all the technical skills learned in Circle & Curve Sampler and moves towards an exploration of design and composition.

BIG BOTANY-ABSTRACTION THROUGH COLOR, PATTERN, AND REPETITION

Working from several sources of inspiration grounded in the natural world, students will work through a design process that emphasizes sketching, developing color palettes, creating pattern, and problem solving organic construction issues.

UNDER THE INFLUENCE—BEG, BORROW, AND STEAL

Advanced piecing workshop for students who are interested in creating their own original compositions based on subject that is meaningful to them. Students will be actively searching for artistic influences and working to incorporate those influences into their own authentic quilts. Students will be led through a series of exercises that will result in a final large quilt composition.

COMPLEX PATTERN

In this workshop, we will explore complex pieced pattern. We will investigate the use of pattern across cultures, while also educating ourselves on how to create our own individualized pieced pattern work, and incorporate that work into authentic quilt compositions. It is recommended that students have either completed the exercises in the Improv Patchwork book or have taken a previous workshop with me.

REPEAT THE REPETITION—EXERCISES IN DOING IT AGAIN

Students will enlarge, shrink, repeat, and deconstruction their inspiration idea with the goal of creating a unified quilt composition that explores connection, variation, rhythm, repetition, and form.