

Christine Fries-Ureel

-- *Two days: "The Art of Making an Appealing Nature Scene":*

Learn to create 3-D leaves, some from fabric, others from thread, by sewing layers of stitching linked together. You'll be surprised at how you can create beautiful realistic-looking leaves! You'll also fashion 3-D butterflies using fabric, thread-painting, and beads. Explore how to make realistic trees with trunks and branches using fabric and quilting lines to represent bark textures, contours, and shadowing. Learn the technique used for Miranda's hair in my quilt, "*Miranda: The Tempest*," by employing free-motion embroidery on water-soluble stabilizer to craft a little creature. You'll create a cozy place for it, a corner with pond water and a lurking spider and web if there is time. We'll emphasize attention to details which play a major role in quilts. You'll look at new ways of choosing colors and threads to enhance the beauty of your quilts. Everyone will create her own personal little nature scene! (Details and examples at [www.loveabideth.com](http://www.loveabideth.com) -- click on "Classes.")

**Supplies:**

- Iron & ironing surface.
  
- About six sheets of paper toweling.
  
- Small sharp fabric scissors and your regular fabric scissors.
  
- A stiletto (optional).
  
- A fat quarter for background, and one for backing. I'll have pieces of my own cotton hand-dyes for sale (18" x 22") that can be used as background. Mickey Lawler's SKYDYES, or hand-dyes from FabricsToDyeFor, are a great choice too, for background. Batting (a good choice is Hobbs Heirloom 100% wool batting). Hand-dyes and batiks (lots of scraps) are good for making tree branches and for making leaves (leaves from fat quarters). Their color doesn't necessarily have to be brown. Fabric for butterflies (fat quarters): choose the brightest fabric, even neon colors.
  
- If you have WATERCOLOR pencils, bring them (optional).
  
- Sewing machine in good working order. Feed dogs must be able to be raised and lowered. Accessories, especially a darning foot and open-toe embroidery foot (to do satin-stitching). An open-toe embroidery foot is important for seeing what you are sewing; it must be the one with no parts between the two vertical sides of the foot.
  
- Large slide-on table to increase your machine's sewing surface, such as "Sew Steady tables," measuring 18" X 24", or 11½" X 15". This is a requirement for work with the hoop. Without it you won't be able to work with your hoop.
  
- Pins and extra bobbins.
  
- Thread stand for thread spools, or Bernina multiple spool holder, or simply a jar.
  
- A small bead for spider head and a bigger one for spider body (optional).
  
- Bring all the "fancy" thread and Poly embroidery thread you have. It's best not to buy thread for the class, as you'll be making color choices as you work. I'll have a large choice of colors available in class to buy or borrow.

(Supply-list items marked with an asterisk will also be available for purchase in class, if needed.)

( \* ) -- UHU glue stick (choose the small, not the large).

( \* ) -- Sharpie Marker ultra-fine (green or brown).

( \* ) -- **Thread:**

( \* ) -- Madeira Supertwist #30 or Glitter Hologram Superior thread (for water) (optional).

( \* ) -- Madeira Polyneon #40, in a color contrasting with your background fabric to make the spiderweb. It can be a metallic color too, such as Superior metallic.

( \* ) -- Superior Trilobal Poly (40 wt) or Madeira Polyneon #40 thread in white and in black. For the little creature, choose both a dark and a light of one of the following: browns, oranges, greys, beiges, purples, blues, or greenish. Madeira Polyneon #40 in fluorescent colors and Madeira Supertwist #30 (metallic) in bright colors (for butterflies).

( \* ) -- "The Bottom Line" Superior thread or "MonoPoly" Superior thread to use in the bobbin (optional).

( \* ) -- A thicker cotton thread for trees and branches:

- Oliver Twists Variegated Hand-Dyed 100% cotton.
- Superior thread Poly Quilter Variegated with cotton-like finish, 19wt. tex 54.
- YLI 100% Variegated Mercerized cotton 40wt. tex 40.
- YLI Jeans Stitch variegated thread 100% Spun Poly.
- Valdani Hand-Dyed Variegated 35wt.

( \* ) -- A piece of Golden Threads Quilting Paper (12" X 12") (optional).

( \* ) -- ½-yard nylon tulle, beige or brown.

( \* ) -- Wooden machine embroidery hoop: 7" diameter.

( \* ) -- Assortment of Schmetz needles:  
-- Embroidery 75/11.  
-- Topstitch 90/14.

( \* ) -- Water-soluble stabilizer:

- Sulky Solvy water-soluble stabilizer (12" roll) or small package.
- Sulky Ultra Solvy Extremely Stable (12"roll) or small package.

( \* ) -- Pellon Wonder-Under (two pieces as big as your background fabric).

( \* ) -- A piece of wool batting ( 36" X 30" or as big as your background fabric).

( \* ) -- I'll have on hand pieces of my own cotton hand-dyes, 18" x 22", that can be used as background.

(If you have questions please e-mail me at [Christine@loveabideth.com](mailto:Christine@loveabideth.com) .)