

304SH Soundwaves Sunday 7th July 14h00 – Monday 8th July

Carolyn Trezona

Session: 3 x 3hr

Level: All



Carolyn's journey with sewing began at the age of ten, making dolls' clothes and eventually her own clothes... how boring! But then the fun began....

Carolyn discovered quilting which she has enjoyed for about 35 years; her passion being free motion quilting. In 2017 she completed the Teachers' Accreditation course with the South African Quilters' Guild, enabling her to share her passion. Carolyn loves sharing with others while giving encouragement to students, enabling them to realise that with a little practice, they can achieve beautiful quilting stitches. Carolyn's aim is to teach students to relax and most of all to have fun.





DETAILED COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This is a fun and relaxed class where you will use some of those lovely, seldom-used embroidery stitches on your sewing machine, some simple couching and finally a few straight-line hand embroidery stitches. You do not need to be proficient in hand embroidery!

In this technique class you will learn the basics of couching an assortment of decorative yarns, cording, rickrack, ribbons, strings of beads, in fact anything over which your zigzag presser foot can stitch. Your finished piece can be used as a wall hanging, a cushion cover or for the more adventurous, a tote bag.

Student Requirements:

Sewing machine in good working order.

Extension cord and plug.

Couching foot (optional but helpful) or open-toe embroidery foot.

Walking foot if you have one.

Topstitch needles (they have a larger eye for different threads).

Batik fabric roughly 50cm by 50cm. If very large, it will be more work and probably not be completed in class. Choose a fabric that is not too busy, but with many colours in a colourway you love. It should not have definite patterns like leaves, flowers etc. Think wishy washy!
Co-ordinated threads of every kind. There is no limit here: cotton, rayon, nylon, metallic in a variety of weights and the colours of the entire colour wheel.

Couching materials – almost every yarn you can think of! If the colour works, you can couch it, eg rattail (satin) cording, thin metal chains, no. 8 pearl cotton, embroidery thread, baby rickrack, ribbons, strings of beads, knitting wool, recycled sari yarn with its texture and rich variegated colours, anything that can be zigzag stitched over.

Hand embroidery materials: a variety of No. 8 pearl cotton embroidery threads.

No. 24 Chenille needles (large eye, sharp point), thimble, embroidery hoop, small scissors.

Fusible interfacing eg Vilene or Pellon. Choose a heavy-ish weight for the machine embroidery stitches. However, not too stiff as there will be handstitching.

Fusible fleece or batting the same size as your batik (or spray baste if using Loomtex).

Backing fabric the same size as your chosen batik. Any colour you choose.

Rattail (satin cord) to go around the perimeter of the final piece. (About 2m).

Appliqué paper the same size as your batik.

Carolyn strongly recommends that students stitch out on a plain piece of fabric all the decorative stitches on their machines. Once stitched out they look very different to the display on the machine! Carolyn has made a stitch bible to which she can refer when trying to select an appropriate stitch. Keep in mind some patterns stitch out very thick and others are thin. Be mindful of the fact that both the length and width of the stitches can be adjusted.

A couching foot makes it much easier to couch different materials but they are quite expensive. It is not necessary to go out and buy one! I will show students how to use an embroidery/zigzag foot to do the job. An open-toe embroidery/zigzag foot allows clear vision right at the needle.