

Baltimore on the Prairie

2010

Main Conference Class: The Whimsy Tree (Broderie Perse)

Kriss Moulds

Hang on to your sewing supplies - we're headed back to early America when medallion quilts often featured a central "tree of life," covered with whimsical appliqued flowers, leaves, and birds which were cut from imported fabric prints. Our class project is a 20" x 23" wallhanging inspired by such designs!

This is a fun Broderie Perse class, where we'll applique motifs onto our own trees. Pre-printed motifs are cut from reproduction fabric which I provide. We'll review basic needleturn techniques for precise and beautiful applique, and learn how to work with "cut-out" pieces and arrangements. We'll also practice an "inner frame" technique, useful for many applique projects.

Supply List

You'll need to bring:

- ✓ Basic applique **sewing supplies** such as needle, small scissors, thimble, and pins. Include basting thread and needle, as well as favorite scissors for cutting motifs from fabric.
- ✓ Applique **thread**: brown and/or neutral.
- ✓ **(4) fat quarters**: **Light** background (ivory, off-white, cream)
Brown tree (need not be solid)
Brown oval frame (a solid looks best)
Green background around the central oval (on the yellow-green side)
(need not be solid)
- ✓ **Embroidery needle and threads**: include browns, dark pinks, greens, and golds
- ✓ 1 sheet of **freezer paper**, about 16 x 19
- ✓ Small **embroidery hoop**, about 6"
- ✓ White **marking pen** or pencil
- ✓ Extra **lighting**, such as an Ott-light, if you have it
- ✓ Optional: extra "broderie perse" type fabrics that might be included

You'll receive a kit (**\$6**) which will include **fabric pieces** for Broderie Perse, ***tree** pattern, **oval** pattern, **handouts**, and a **color photo** of the sample project. I'll have extra thread, needles, and fabric on hand.

*Due to time factors, it would be helpful if quilters could begin the "tree" ahead of time. I will plan to send the tree pattern to class participants before the conference, with some instructions. However, it's not a requirement.

Welcome, quilters! I'm looking forward to meeting each one of you. We'll have a fantastic time together at Baltimore on the Prairie, and even learn a little about the lives and times of our 19th century quilting ladies! Hope to see you there.

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