

Winter Free Workshop – February 9, 2019

Eileen Kahan / Kathy Warren --- Gelli Prints on Fabric -- AM

We have been exploring the use of gelli plates to print on fabric over the last year. This workshop is an introduction to some of the techniques that can be used with the gel printing plate.

Materials List:20-30 PFD fabric pieces prepared with freezer paper ironed on to the wrong side of fabric.
Fabric should be 1-2" larger than gelli plate/

Gelli plate (online and Playtime in Arlington are around same price), either 5x7 or 8x10/

Fabric paint (we recommend Prochem Textile Paints, transparent)/

Paper Towels/

Freezer Paper to place gelli plate on while printing/

Painter's tape to attach freezer paper to table/

Spray bottle of water/

Brayer/

Water dish large enough for brayer/

Baby wipes to clean gelli plate/

soft mark making tools such as cotton swabs, pencil erasers, combs, sponges, stamps, stencils, lace, doilies,corrugated paper,etc./

To do prior to coming to class:

Cut 20-30 pieces of white PFD fabric (Pimatex is a good brand) that are at least 1-2" larger in both dimensions than the gelli plate.

Cut freezer paper the same size as gelli plate and iron onto wrong side of fabric. This will add stability as you pull your prints.

No sewing machine necessary.

Iron and iron pad to help dry fabric by end of the day.

Dear Participants,

We're looking forward to our upcoming Gelli Plate workshop with you. So that you can spend most of your time creating fabric, we suggest that you bring the following (this is a partial repetition from original workshop list + additional info). We're emphasizing the use of everyday objects to create marks, lines, textures, and shapes. However, there are lots of ready-made stencils, texture plates, etc. that you might want to consider using also. Some, of course, are just plain irresistible!

What you need for the initial set-up (we'll demo this):

- Gelli plate(s), 1-2, the size is your choice. (Playtime in Arlington has some as does Amazon/Dick Blick among others). Playtime suggests calling so they can stock what you want.
- 20-30 pieces of PFD (prepared for dyeing) fabric mostly in white, some black if you'd like to try black fabric with metallic paints (ProChem has white fabric. Dharma Trading has black and white.) You can also use other fabrics with a tight weave. Kathy likes to use Kona cotton. Just be sure to wash and iron the fabric. Cut out pieces of fabric larger than your gelli plate to make handling easier and iron on freezer paper in the size of the gelli plate on one side. This will provide stability while pulling prints. You may also want to try a few larger pieces of fabric.
- 1-2 brayers, a few paint brushes, sponges, cotton swabs, string, pencils with erasers, circular caps, light weight plastic bags for scrunching, old credit cards with scissors to cut the edges or make lines, combs, bubble wrap(in easy to handle pieces), plastic mesh bags like the ones that contain shallots. Stencils can be made out of manila folders/Tyvek/card stock. Tweezers(to pull off stencils/string from gelli plate.) Ball point pen or pencil for making designs on foam board (which we'll provide).
- Fabric Paints: ProChem has a line of transparent fabric paints. Others are Jacquard, Tulip Matte which are opaque (at Joann's/ Michaels) and Metallic (Prochem, Tulip, Jacquard). Whatever paint you choose, it should be of medium consistency, like mayonnaise. We suggest bringing just a few colors that will blend so you can concentrate on different techniques. Kathy likes the ProChem paints and Eileen likes Tulip also.
- Freezer paper, painter's or masking tape, paper towels, baby wipes, water spray bottle.

Optional items you may want to bring: sponges in different cut out shapes to use directly on gelli plate or to dab paint on over stencils, ready-made texture plates, stencils, combs. Eileen likes silicone potholders that have texture. They're easy to clean.

There are abundant YouTube videos on using gelli plates(see <gelliarts.com>) if you want to get a head start. Books we like are "Gelli Plate Printing" by Joan Bess and "Gelli Printing" by Suzanne McNeill.

Looking forward to a fun morning!

All best,

Eileen and Kathy

