April Sampler of the Month

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During April receive a 15% Sampler of the Month discount on your purchase of a minimum of 2 of the following:

* Chart $22
* Overdyed silks $94; Tudor silks for 45c/52-60c $78.75
* Lakeside Linen (40c cut w/2-inch margins, $39)

While this Italian sampler is not a recent reproduction from Gigi’s collection, it seems so appropriate for this Easter month with its Les Arma Christi ou Les Instruments de la Passion. In the square on the middle left of the sampler are motifs, Arma Christi/Instruments of the Passion, objects associated with Jesus’ Passion in Christian symbolism and art.

Gigi includes a page in the chart with the motifs and an explanation of what each symbolizes, i.e., the rooster that crowed after Peter’s third denial, the nails and the hammer used to drive the nails into Jesus’ hands and feet, the seamless Robe of Jesus. Its description in the chart:

*The most famous of Jesus’ clothes is without contest this Seamless Robe that The Virgin wove for her son and that grew with him and that he kept until the day it was cast as a lot by the soldiers that crucified him. Unique and miraculous Robe.*

And if you prefer to eliminate that square and make your sampler more symmetrical, Gigi has provided that option. See below.

From Gigi R’s Website: “This design is presented in two versions: one strictly conform to the original design stitched by Adélaïde and the other one is a more symmetrical adaptation where the index of motives (Arma Christi, explained in the booklet) is removed.”

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I began stitching my reproduction of Adelaïde's beautiful sampler while away on a family vacation, not in my stitching nest and without my light, etc. etc. You get the picture. The color I began stitching the border with is wrong, as are one or two others, but it just has to stay. I really don't think Adelaïde will mind. And I rather like the border color.

Right, the overdyed silks we've chosen by using the above reproduction photo.

Left, image of the reproduction included in the chart.

In working with the hand-dyed cottons called for in the reproduction for purposes of our silk conversion, the dyelots for several of the colors have changed over the years since this model was stitched, so for our conversion, we used enlargements of this image to try to match the colors to those shown in this reproduction.

If you choose to stitch this in the hand-dyed cottons listed, you will need to tweak several of the colors to achieve the same result.
Customer Appreciation/Stitch-In, Thursdays, 4 - 8 PM
For as long as I can remember, The Attic has been open on Thursday nights and, along with that, provides the setting for customers to gather to share their needlework with others. This is an opportunity for me to host a weekly time with our customers, to show them the newest and greatest, preview new designs and great needlework stuff, and also see what you’re stitching! As a valued customer, you are invited to join us!

Every Thursday

April

As an Attic Addict save 15% in April on:
* All Gigi R designs
* In-stock scissors
* In-stock Accessories

The Needlework Show
The tradeshow without the traveling!

It’s that time of year again, when you can shop to your heart’s content from your computer, at whatever time of day or night works for you. This Spring Show runs from Thursday, April 16 through Tuesday, April 21. Please have your orders to us by close of business on Tuesday, April 21. Find the show booths [here](#).

Sunday, April 19, Sampler Sunday, 1 - 4 ~ Yes, the 15th is March’s third Sunday, time for our monthly gathering for sampler devotees. Refreshments served ~ please register ~ fee $10

Saturday, April 25, Beginning Hardanger Part 2, 10 - 12 ~ Learn the basics of this beautiful Norwegian embroidery technique while creating a lovely sachet from Janice Love's "Hardanger Bible," Basics and Beyond. The book ($15) will be the text for this class with its very excellent and comprehensive instructions, and it includes the class project design as well as five other lacy sachets. As always, students receive a 10% discount on the book + supplies purchased for this class, including scissors. Fee $20

Saturday, April 25, Sampler Stitches 141, 1:30-3:30 ~ The class number tells the story here, an upper-level class because the stitches covered in this class: Detached Buttonhole & Trellis Stitch. $20 Fee ~ Linda appreciates it if students avoid wearing perfumes to class.

We only have a few BCRF cookbooks left!

Support a great cause (all net proceeds go to breast cancer research) by buying a copy(s) of the Recipes for a Cure cookbook for a donation of $14.95 (or more) with fabulous time-tested recipes as well as complimentary designs from 11

Save the Date ... for Summer School 2015, August 21 - 23 (please note new date) ... for some History Lessons ... with a needlework bent!

August 2015

Jackie du Plessis Workshops at The Attic:
* Attic of Dreams 2
* Florine’s Fan-Fare
* Queen M’s Pomander & Privy Purse
* September Morning
(Details on the following pages)

November 6-9, 2015

Merry Cox’s Ophelia . . .


More details in a future newsletter.
I am pleased to publish photos, workshop prices, and hotel information for this very special Attic event. We are privileged to host these Jackie workshops the weekend of November 6-9 at the Hyatt Place in Mesa, located just 15 minutes from our new Attic, with shuttle service available to and from the shop. Reservations with the hotel can be made by calling 888-492-8847 or 480-969-8200. You must ask for the “Attic Needlework” group rate (King $114; Double Queen $119) or go online to http://www.phoenixmesa.place.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html These rates are available 3 days pre and post the weekend for any of you who wish to come early or stay longer. The rates include a deluxe continental breakfast, unlimited high-speed Internet access, 24-hour access to the StayFit@Hyatt fitness room and e-room business center, and use of the swimming pool, 9-hole executive putting green, and shuttle service within a five-mile radius upon availability.

The weekend schedule with workshop prices:

**Friday, November 6, 3 - 8 pm** (with a break for a light supper at 5:00) ~ Attic of Dreams 2 ~ $185
**Saturday, November 7, 9 - 5 pm** (with a lunch break at 11:30) ~ Florine’s Fan-Fare presented in 2 parts ~ the Scrimshaw Palm-Vane in the AM $175 & the Reticule in the PM $165
**Saturday night, 5:30-??, Wine & Food Reception at the shop open to all workshop participants RSVP**
**Sunday, November 8, 9 - 4 pm** (with lunch at 12:00) ~ Queen M’s Pomander & Privy Purse $245
**Monday, November 9, 9 - 4 pm** (with lunch at 12:00) ~ September Morning $210

**Friday: Attic of Dreams 2 Button Bassinet** Jackie and I invite all sampler stitchers to join us for this, the second part of Attic of Dreams, together in class. Using Au Vér A Soie’s Trebizond and silk Gimp threads, the start of a teeny bassinet front will be woven. This bassinet front attaches with ribbons to a paneled hangable linen section that can be personalized with included initials and or spot motifs and favorite stitches. The bassinet’s main function is to nest a cross section of stitched band sampler created using the Attic of Dreams needleholder (Part I) color and stitches ~ it will wrap and bundle around a glass button-decorated decanter.

All supplies needed for stitching and finishing, including silk fiber, silk ribbon, 30-count linen, detailed instructions with color charts and color finishing photos.

**Saturday: Florine’s Fan-Fare** Madam Florine, a French noblewoman, has commissioned the students of the Mansarde Aiguille Academy (Attic Needle Academy) to create the absolute portmanteau (reticule) to hold-safe an exquisitely handcrafted Scrimshaw Palm-vane. Her instructions...wishes were:

- The Portmanteau must be furbished with the best of silk fabrics. It must look and feel beyond compare. It must fit her petite gloved hand. It must be worked in only silken filaments and silk fragments. It can only use superb hand-colored ribbons and trimmings. The colors must reflect femininity. Only then can and must the worker present her work and name on this pièce de resistance. After critically reviewing all the work, Madam Florine was so impressed that she granted the Academy the permission to recreate her Portmanteau Fan-Fare.

Sessions begin Saturday morning ~ see you in class as you work on re-creating your ultimate reticule and Scrimshaw palm-vane.

All supplies needed for stitching and finishing, including silk fiber and silk hand-dyed fibers, silk taffeta check, silk ribbon, 34-count Legacy linen, detailed instructions with color charts and color finishing photos.
Sunday: Queen M's Pomander & Privy Purse  

A pomander, from the French pomme d'ambre is a ball made of perfume. The Queen M's pomander is two-sided opening, oval-global stitched shapes that connect and hold a silk drawstring pouch for storage of herb fragments. The two exterior oval global shapes are adorned and covered with stitched pomegranates and foliage using vibrant rich tones of reds and pinks. Your treasured pomander stows in a privy purse constructed using covered Hedebo/Dorset button rings.

Jackie's inspiration for this pomander's privy purse is pulled from a purse she purchased in Spokane, Washington while teaching there many years ago. The original is stitched in black; yours will we worked to match the jewel tones of the pomander. The privy purse will be lined and decorated with beads and ribbons and silk fabric.

The work tray seen as a work in progress will be an optional item available for students only.

Complete kit includes all supplies needed for stitching and finishing: silk fiber and silk hand-dyed fibers, silk taffeta check, silk ribbon, 34-count Legacy linen and 32-count linen, detailed instructions with color charts and color finishing photos.

Monday: September Morning  

A September morning finds you walking down a fashionable avenue in Paris, looking for a very special object that you can take home with you. Tucked away in the display window's corner, you eyes are drawn to a delicate carton. The carton is decorated with soft watercolor styled flowers, leaves and vines.

You step inside the shop for a closer look. Excitement fills the air as you recognize the carton to be a needlework box. The shop attendant sees your interest and takes the needlework box to a viewing area. The shop becomes silent. Your eyes follow the shape of the box. It's a rectangular about 6” x 3” x 1 3/4”h. The slanted sides are decorated with tiny silk stitches that resemble watercolor paints on a warm antique-colored linen. The four box sides are attached to one another and meet with panels at the top creating a functional box top that ties with a wonderful vintage-looking silk ribbon. The ribbon is untied and you notice that each of the four box sides are attached to these linen panels to create the top of the box. With the ribbon untied and the box top panels folded back, you view the silk-lined interior. It is filled with tiny trinkets and tools. A thimble hides in one corner, buttons and bows adorn a tufted mattress pincushion, and you see a tiny needlebook with scissor minder. The box's silken interior has silk pockets, and each is filled with tiny treasures, paper, mementos and needle necessities.

Holding your purchase, you walk to your hotel room, thinking of the needlework person who owned this treasure before you and about the treasures you are planning to add to this beautiful September Morning memory. Join Jackie in class as we celebrate our September Morning.

September Morning is worked on 32-count linen with hand-dyed and solid silk fibers. The interior silk fabric provided in your kit is a luxurious taffeta linen. The vintage looking silk ribbon will be specially dyed for this project. Color graphs and diagrams with colored instructions will be provided in class.

The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842)  www.attieneedlework.com
Registration is accepted by email only, please, at jeanlea@me.com. Please include the Registration Form, which I am happy to send you as an email attachment. Please fill it out and either scan it and email it back to me or send it via snail mail. Thanks very much for following the new-to-us registration procedures, adopted to try to resolve some issues we've had in the recent past.

Registration Form

Name ____________________________ Address ________________________________
City ___________________ State ____ ZIP ______ Phone ____________________ Email ________________________________

Credit Card Number ___________________________ Expiration _________________ Security Code _________

Name on card _________________________ Signature ______________________________________________

Workshop Choices:
* ____ Friday, November 6, Attic of Dreams 2 (Button Bassinet) - $185
* ____ Saturday, November 7, Florine’s Fan-Fare - Scrimshaw Fan $175 ~ Reticule $165
* ____ Sunday, November 8, Queen M’s Pomander & Pricy Purse - $245
* ____ Monday, September Morning - $210 (The Traveler is optional to Workshop participants and may be purchased in class.)

Fees:
* $50 Non-Refundable Registration Fee Per Workshop Charged Upon Registration
* ___ I will attend Saturday Night Reception (and will bring a guest, an additional $25)
* ___ Workshop Fees Balance due and payable on or before September 6, 2015, and is non-refundable on or after October 1, 2015.

Release: I release Attic Needlework from any liability for any theft, property damage, or personal injury while participating in or attending any workshops, events, or free time at this Attic Needlework event. I have read and understand all cancellation policies.

Signature ___________________________ Date __________________________

Email my confirmation to ______________________________________________

The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842) www.atticneedlework.com
From the left: "Quaker Scissor Heart" $8.50 ~ "Spring Eggs V" $8.50 ~ "Avery’s Little Red Truck" $7

"Victorian Slipper" Scissors & Thimble Holder $10 with complete finishing instructions ~ "The Strawberry Patch Needlework Tray" $10, using a wood tray from Hobby Lobby, again with complete finishing instructions.

"Small Star" $14, 88 x 124 ~ shown stitched on 28c, but perfect for the fabric count of your choice, and with only 3 metallic threads, very adaptable to using the stitches-like-thread Accentuate and Bijoux metallics that come in dozens of colors and work beautifully on fine-count linens using 1 ply.

The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842) www.atticneedlework.com
More Wonderful New in the Shop from . . .

Clockwise from above: “Parrot Pyn Pillow” $12, 62 x 65 ~ “Mary Tributt 1820” $16, 265 x 225, with parts of the verse over one ~ “Henrietta Frankland” $16, 197 x 245 ~ LOVE the verses!

. . . Scattered Seed Samplers

From the left: “Milly & Molly O’Mally” $12, 82 x 150 ~ “Country Cottontails,” $12, 135 x 81

The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842) www.atticneedlework.com
For those of us who love red in every piece of needlework, these are for us! Clockwise from above: “Tokens of Affection” $11, 33 x 40 & two reproductions, “Ann Barlow 1829” $12, 168 x 164, & “Elizabeth Ravenscroft” $14, 108 x 170

“Antique Rooster” $7, 235 x 89, was released at Nashville and in a February newsletter I showed you a snippet of this, but it is so beautiful (and happens to be red) that I wanted you to see it all! Button pack available as well.

Just CrossStitch 1983-1990 Collection now available on a DVD that contains every issue and every pattern for 8 years of the JCS magazine, $49.95

The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842) www.atticneedlework.com
From the left: “By the Chimney” in the Ornament Classic Collection, $6, 51 x 66 ~ “Furry Friends” $8, 160 x 83

Third in The Sampler Tree Ornament Series, “Three Crowns” $6

From the left: “Pledge Allegiance - 1892” $9, 137 x 169 ~ “Penny Tree Farm” $9, 85 x 104 ~ “Blessed are the Pure in Heart” $9, 92 x 96
. . . Little House Needleworks, “Florist” in the Hometown Holiday Series, $6 & “Christmas Rose” in the Sampler Tree Series, $6

. . . Country Cottage Needleworks’ “Afternoon in Paris” $8, 207 x 63 & “Holly Jolly” in the Classic Collection Ornaments Series, $6

. . . Notforgotten Farm, “Spring Farmhouse” $8 & “Rabbit Stew” $8
Also New in Our Attic from . . .

**. . . The Sampler House (Eileen Bennett)**

“Colonial Band Sampler” $18, 48 x 151, with 16 old sampler stitches: cross, double cross, small cross, cross stitch with bars, Belgian cross, zig-zag cross, buttonhole bars, double back stitch, Colonial knots, flat stitch, back stitch, four-sided, Italian hem, queens, partial queens, small Algerian Eye, and diagonal rice stitch.

**. . . Stoney Creek**

In the Flowers of the Month Series, “March Pansy” $6

**. . . Amaryllis Artworks**

“Pining to Stitch” Needlework & Pinkeep, $12, with excellent stitch diagrams and finishing instructions

**. . . Angel Stitchin**

Above, “Wag Your Tail” $10.50 w/bone button ~ Below, “A Lot of Chocolate” $15.50 w/3 buttons

“Wisteria” $13 in the Pixie Blossoms Collection, 135 x 138. Embellishment Pack, $9

The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842) www.atticneedlework.com
2 lovely designs that you can finish in plenty of time for the Season they celebrate.

From the left, “Winds Through the Olive Trees” $18, 238 x 328, with a lovely verse:
Winds through the olive trees, Softly did blow
Round little Bethlehem, Long, long ago.
Sheep on the hillside lay, whiter than snow.
Shepherds were watching them, Long, long ago.
Then from the happy skies, Angels bent low.
Singing their songs of joy, Long, long ago.
For in a manger bed, Cradles we know,
Christ came to Bethlehem, Long, long ago.

“The Magical Season” $10, 85 x 85
~ I know it’s not the season, but for me, anything with a deer that’s red is perfect for my needle, no matter what time of year it is!

“The Magical Season” $10, 85 x 85
~ I know it’s not the season, but for me, anything with a deer that’s red is perfect for my needle, no matter what time of year it is!

“Frances Carter Sampler” $8, 152 x 138, dedicated to the designer’s grandmother, who was a writer, and includes a few lines from one of her poems: Lilacs are in bloom; Beautiful as quaint old lace, Fragrant as young love.
Oh, how I miss lilacs!
The Attic, Mesa, AZ Toll-Free: 1.888.94-ATTIC (1.888.942.8842) www.atticneedlework.com

More Coming to the Shop from . . .

. . . SamSarah Design Studios, “Still Crazy - Part 3” $13 w/buttons ~ and, below, what it will look like with all parts!

. . . Lindsay Lane Designs, Part 3 of the stunning “Maria Ceron” sampler, and left is a photo of the more faded colors chosen to match the front of the sampler, and we've done a conversion to hand-dyed silk. The 365 x 379 sampler on 40c Lakeside will be 10.25 x 18.95! This will be a very fun stitch indeed!

. . . Germany's Zweigart through one of our distributors, the Petit Point Raw w/White Dots in 36c Edinburgh!!! We've been waiting for this for several months, and when this very charming Blackbird Designs’ “My Pink Rose” came out at Nashville, my patience for this back-ordered linen started running out ~ I just spoke with our distributor and the wait is soon over! Shipment expected by them any day, which means we should have it next week! Wonderful! The only thing better: If it also came in 40c Newcastle :-)

First attempt at an overdyed silk conversion, with tweaking to be done.

. . . Lindsay Lane Designs, Part 3 of the stunning “Maria Ceron” sampler, and left is a photo of the more faded colors chosen to match the front of the sampler, and we've done a conversion to hand-dyed silk. The 365 x 379 sampler on 40c Lakeside will be 10.25 x 18.95! This will be a very fun stitch indeed!
“My Spirits Lift Whenever I Stitch” $10, 109 x 69 ~ shown in a lovely box from Retromantic Fripperies, 4 x 6 size fits the design stitched on 40c ~ also available in 5 x 7 & 6 x 8, in a wonderful selection of hardwoods (maple, butternut, cherry, white wash, black, or grey wash, with varying designs on the sides ~ special order.

The boxes that these sweet little $11 Sullivan scissors come in, I’ve just learned, are no longer available but they now come in blister packs, not nearly as nice for gift-giving. I have a few remaining, in silver & copper.

This 3-piece scissor set is presented in a black leather case and is perfect for gift-giving, from yourself to yourself, or if someone special is looking to buy you something very special. $298 set.
For our first month of this SAL, we will begin, of course, at the top. But first as Joanne recommends, we will baste over 4 threads down the left side. Then work Bands One through Nine, using Joanne’s very clear instructions. If you have any questions, please let us know.

The elegant band format found on the sampler embroidered by Ann Almy has just been reproduced and taught at the recent Winterthur Museum Symposium by Joanne Harvey/The Examplery. From Colonial Williamsburg Foundation’s textile collection and documented in Bolton & Coe’s American Samplers, this sampler was wrought in the “English style” and belongs to the earliest group of Newport, Rhode Island samplers worked between the 1720’s through the late 1760’s. The bold central floral motif, decorative bands, numerals, dividing bands, and verses are repeated on other examples found during this time frame. This important early design was worked under a still unidentified instructress.

Ann Almy was the daughter of William Almy and Elizabeth Cranston born in 1722. She married Walter Chaloner in Trinity Church on July 28, 1743. He was commander of Fort George and then High Sheriff of the British Colony of Rhode Island. The Chaloners were loyalists to the English crown and evacuated to Nova Scotia, Canada as refugees of the American Revolution. From there they moved to St. Johns, New Brunswick, where he became Justice of the Peace. Together they were parents of ten children. Ann passed away in 1808 in Canada and is buried in St. Johns.

Joanne is continuing her research on the Chaloners, so stay tuned for more interesting historical information! It promises to be very intriguing!

The sampler reproduction kit includes 32c linen and 25 hues of DMC floss. Full directions and illustrations are given for the different embroidery techniques as found on the original sampler, and those include Cross Stitch and its many variations, Queen Stitch, Algerian Eye, and accents of Double Running. If you’ve never embroidered an Examplery reproduction before, you will find the pages and pages of stitch diagrams and charting almost as helpful as having Joanne there instructing you personally. Kit $79
Our Customers Share

Gloria’s “His Eye is on the Sparrow” from Heartstring Samplery & Homespun Elegance’s “Still Stitching After All These Years”

Linda D’s “Button Button” by With Thy Needle & Thread ~ Linda used hand-dyed cottons from Weeks & Gentle Art that she selected to match the antique button card that the design replicates. Then she finished it into a pocketed needlebook, with the pocket perfect for holding the button card. So clever. Please let us know if you’d like to use the colors Linda used.

Julie’s “Antique Rooster Sampler” from JBW Designs
Kathy’s amazing near finish of this design (I’m sorry, I can’t remember its name and can’t find it at the moment either) from The Chatelaine’s Martina Weber.

Judy’s stunning “Jane Ballard” from The Porcupine Collection ~ always such fun to see samplers you’ve been wanting to stitch for decades actually being stitched by someone! One of the best parts of my job for sure!

Dolly’s gorgeous “1837 Crown Sampler” from Plum Street Samplers ~ Dolly stitched this on 52/60 linen with Tudor silks.
Some Special Things Inside Our Attic

Two special pins sets from Citrus Manor Creations ~ limited because the beautiful beads are limited to the designer, $15 for each set.

This charming acorn pinkeep twists open to a felt page for your needles, $32

2 sweet boxes from Retromantic Fripperies:
* Left, a drawer with a magnetic needleminder inside, $34
* Above, a sliding cover with an antique sewing machine on its lid and a spool of thread on the inside bottom, $24
My brother Jer & his wife Nancy were in Arizona for 2 months ~ and for many afternoons, Nancy came to the shop to help with mail orders instead of going swimming with Jer.

And then they met us in Virginia, where we spent the week with our son, daughter-in-law, and grandchildren Tyler and Hannah. Love their impish look as they met us at the airport with the ubiquitous airport sign with our names on it.

It was a most memorable week in one of my favorite places on earth, Colonial Williamsburg.

Another great tree at the Ash Lawn-Highland home of President Monroe, in the shadows of Monticello seen through the character of an old tree!

Tyler & Hannah meet Thomas Jefferson

Tyler & Hannah with George Washington

Another great tree that Ralph is pretending to hold up

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