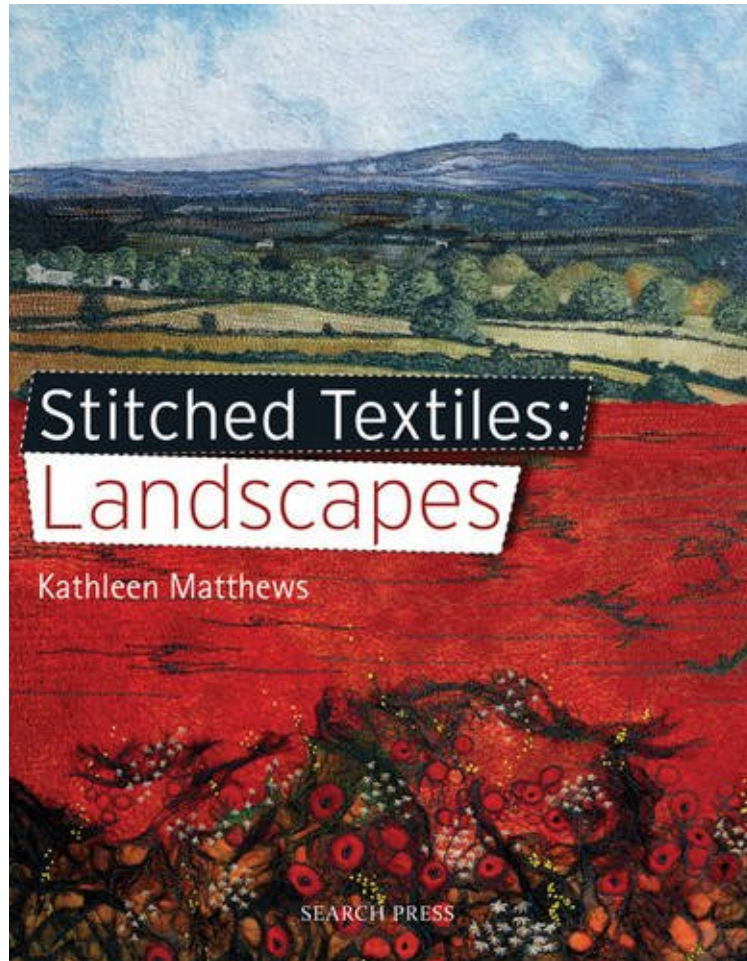


Stitched Textiles: Landscapes

Kathleen Matthews

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Kathleen Matthews : Stitched Textiles: Landscapes before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *Stitched Textiles: Landscapes*:

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. Basically a good bookBy Helene KnottMy header says it all, this is basically a good book but I was hoping for a little more innovation. The 'methods' and design approaches in the book are sound and well described but it does not really cover anything I did not know already. Mind you, I am a professional quilter who specializes in landscape quilts and my existing base of knowledge and skills in quilting this type of quilt are higher than your standard 'traditional' quilter, a less experienced quilter would find this a real treasure of information and ideas.Given my level of expertise, I found Alison Holt's books on Machine Embroidered Woodlands and Machine Embroidered Seascapes more innovative and enthralling even though she takes her stitchery to a level higher than what I want to do with my own work. Nonetheless, I found the the techniques in Ms. Holt's books easy to simplify and adapt to more standard quilting methods and this really pushed the envelope for me and

challenged me to spread my wings and try something new. That being said, this book would be an excellent addition to the library of someone interested in exploring Landscape Quilting, I plan to keep it in my library and refer students to it even though it breaks no new ground with me. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. good inspiration
By Top Dog Mom
The process is easy to understand. Clear photos for each step of the way to help anyone explore their own desire to stitch landscape quilts. The specific instructions for dyeing, types of fabric, and basic construction were wonderful and easy to adapt. Many books on quilting or crafts show the artist's work but do not clearly explain the details of start to finish. Ms Matthews is a good teacher and has inspired me. 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great Techniques in Layering
By Sue A. Leatherman
I like her discussion of the specific elements of a landscape. It helps to understand how to approach the creative process of a landscape art quilt. There is an interesting and fun description on dyeing fabrics that removes any fear of working with dyes. The projects in the back of the book guide the reader step-by-step in creating a landscape quilt using layers and stitching. It's easy to follow and encourages a successful results.

Featuring original projects and with expert advice on design, techniques and the materials you need to get started, this instructional guide is brimming over with good ideas for a stunning selection of fabric and stitch scenes. Kathleen explores skies, water, trees and woodlands, hills and mountains, flowers in the landscape, fields and grasses and much more. A fantastic source for ideas and wonderful must-have reference book for all textile artists, whatever their skill levels.

It is the most informative book on Landscapes written so clearly that a beginner could create a lovely quilted picture. The pictures are beautiful, the techniques well explained and this will inspire anyone to try her techniques. I have many books on this subject but this is the best. Congratulations to her. * Customer * May-June 13 Using a combination of fabric piecing, with machine and hand embroidery Kathleen presents a variety of textile landscapes, based on some of her favourite places. Detailed chapters covering design, materials and stitching techniques are beautifully illustrated with Kathleen's work, and five step-by-step projects encourage us to create our own landscape. An inspiring book, perfect for anyone looking for a new approach to the subject. * East Kent Embroiderer's Guild * Dec 13 Another in the Stitched Textiles series from Search Press, this book tackles the creation of beautiful landscapes using machine stitching techniques over pieces of cut fabric. If this is an area you are interested in, this book is an excellent reference on how to achieve the effects that Kathleen Matthews creates. There is an introductory section on the basics - materials, design, dyeing - all of which give a good overall view of how to gather your equipment and get ready for Kathleen's style of work. The book is laid out particularly well, focusing on each key area in landscapes (I couldn't think of any more you might need to know), such as skies, water, fields and grasses, flowers and rocks. In each of these sections, there are fully illustrated steps to creating an effective look to the work. There are several different pictures to illustrate different ways of approaching each. For each picture, there is an in-depth description of what you are seeing and how this is translated into stitch. The pictures are excellent quality and in enough detail that you can see the stitches as described. There are some interesting points, such as remembering reflected shadows on trees, and creating a sense of perspective and dimension. Seasons are also covered in another section and the different colours you will characteristically need for each is also explored. There are several projects at the end, and these are a great way of getting to grips with this technique. A combination of the instructions given in this section, and being able to refer back to the instruction for each key area earlier in the book, make for a great tutorial in this stitching style. * Workshop On The Web * Sept 13 In the same series as Stitched Textiles: Flowers, this book shows you how to make landscapes, the inspiration behind some beautiful and fun to make projects. If you have the earlier title and are expecting something in the same style don't: this is a very different book from an artist with a totally different style. All the pieces in this book are quilts to start with although if like this reviewer you do not make quilts the methods are perfect for many other items too. Unless you want to go all the way and dye your own fabrics you don't need much to make the pieces shown here, and most if not all of it will already be in the possession of anybody with a sewing machine. Learn how to design a good composition and lay down scraps of fabric before stitching over them with the machine. It is a simple method but what you do with it decides the merit of the work, I like that. Infinite pictures and designs are possible without much work. The method is shown in many easy stages in Search Press style, with lots of small photos with captions showing what to add to each to make the picture. There are sections on how to portray different landscape elements such as skies, water, trees, hills, buildings etc. and all four seasons shown. Finally, there are five well described and illustrated projects so you can test your knowledge and have a go yourself. Plenty of large format photographs show the works in detail, and all of it had me itching to get started. There is of course a section on dyeing your own cloth and thread if you wish to do so, and even if you don't think how much recycling of odd bits of fabric you can do. One of the best hands-on user friendly books of its kind and definitely a keeper. * Myshef.com * Aug/Sep 13 Landscapes are perfect subjects for embroidery as they can be interpreted in so many ways. Many of Kathleen's textiles begin with hand-dyed fabrics, which create unusual colours that work well with a variety of techniques. The dyeing process, using Procion cold-water dyes, is clearly explained in step-by-step photos, and the

dyed fabrics are layered or cut out and applied to create gorgeous backgrounds. Lines of undulating free machine stitching echo the structure of the landscape, following the contours of the land, creating ripples on water and recreating foliage and flowers. Whether worked by hand or machine, the stitching adds movement and depth to the textiles. There are five complete projects, all clearly illustrated with step-by-step photos. Focusing on each element of the landscape, a wealth of stitched samples illustrate the methods used to create skies, trees and woodlands, rocks and pebbles, and more. This collection of ideas will allow you to create your own favourite landscapes, and, with every view offering an opportunity, you'll be taking your camera everywhere with you. * Stitch * Aug 13 If you love painting with a needle then this book is for you. Kathleen has created the most wonderful landscapes with simple dyed fabrics, layering techniques and sumptuous machine embroidery to give depth and a painterly quality to her pictures. Learn how to take a photograph and transform it into your own unique picture with beautifully illustrated steps and clear demonstrations. Definitely one for my bookshelf. * SEWING WORLD * October 2014 Featuring original projects and with expert advice on design, techniques and the materials you need to get started, this instructional guide is brimming over with good ideas for a stunning selection of fabric and stitch scenes. Kathleen explores skies, water, trees and woodlands, hills and mountains, flowers in the landscape, fields and grasses and much more. A fantastic source for ideas and wonderful must-have reference book for all textile artists, whatever their skill levels. Kathleen Matthews shares her unique method of creating beautiful landscapes using quilting, dyeing and stitching techniques. She shows what materials are needed, and takes us through her design process from taking reference photographs of landscapes through composition, identifying the light source and choosing fabrics and thread to create the scene. There is an excellent section on using simple dyeing methods to create unique fabrics that are ideal for landscapes. We then learn how to transfer the design on to fabric, create a quilt and then layer fabrics to create the various parts of a picture. Free machine embroidery is then used to create the effect, with hand embroidery sometimes employed for details. There is plenty of information on creating landscape elements such as water, skies, trees, hills and mountains, fields, flowers and buildings and more, and on depicting the four seasons. Hot Brands Cool Places Verdict This is a practical and inspiring guide to producing textile landscapes using Kathleen Matthews' unique dyeing, layering and stitching technique. There are full step-by-step instructions for all the quilting, dyeing and stitching techniques used. There are five beautiful step-by-step projects and plenty of inspirational pieces Autumn Woodland, Flowers in a Landscape, a Mountain Scene, a Sunset on Water and a Lavender Field. * hotbrandscoolplaces.com * June 13 This is a new series from Search Press of exciting books exploring textiles. Kathleen Matthews shows you how to dye fabric and thread, layer materials for depth, and use machine and hand embroidery to enhance your work. It is a technique used by many textile artists, myself included. There is a good introduction to materials and the design process for the beginner, advanced textile artists might find this too simple. However, these simple ideas are used in this book to produce stunning work. The dyeing section is again for beginners and shows tray dyeing. In Basic Techniques you will find a complete how to project with good step by step instructions and plenty of photographs. This is very easy to follow. In Elements of The Landscape, you will discover how to translate into fabric and stitch the different elements that will enable you to build a landscape. I particularly like the way Kathleen has painted colour charts from photographs. She explores the elements further in Seasons. The Projects in this book are wonderful. They are easy to follow with step by step instructions and photographs. There are five projects: Autumn Woodland, which is my favourite; Flower Garden; Mountain Lake; Sunset Loch and Lavender Farm. This is a beautiful book that brings all the individual elements dye, fabric, stitch together to make wonderful landscapes. * Karen Platt Yarnsandfabrics.co.uk/crafts *About the AuthorKathleen Matthews was born and still lives in the Forest of Dean. She studied Art, Design and Fashion at Lydney School of Art and Cheltenham College of Art, and has continued studying textiles since. She has also qualified as a teacher of Japanese Embroidery. For many years she lectured, in all kinds of textiles including Design, Patchwork, Quilting and Embroidery, at the Forest of Dean College in Gloucestershire. Her quilts and wall hangings have won awards at shows around the UK and one has been chosen to represent the UK in the World Quilt Show in Florida.