



Carrefour
Européen
Patchwork

RETREAT PRACTICAL SHEET

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Tara MILLER | Building Imagery by Hand Appliqué, Embroidery, and Big-Stitch

Thank you for your interest in this unique creative experience! In the meantime, please prepare yourself with the following information. When you arrive, please be punctual and allow time for the teacher to settle in. All participants will be called at the beginning of the class.

Please take care of the materials provided by the organization, the classrooms and make sure that your workspace is as you found it.

During the course you may be visited by the event's photo & video teams. They will do their best not to disturb you, but images are important, so please give them a warm welcome. If you do not wish to be filmed or photographed in close-up, please let them know.

You will be given a questionnaire to evaluate the course at the end. Please complete it to ensure the quality of the teaching provided at Carrefour.

We wish you a wonderful experience and a successful workshop!

Practical information

From Monday, September 21 to Thursday, September 24, 2026

9 AM – 5 PM | Salle des Fêtes, 59 Rue du 3E Spahis Algériens, 68650 Le Bonhomme

Presentation & what to expect

This Carrefour retreat is a personal exploration designed to shift and expand how you design and make. Working entirely by hand, you will use needle, thread, and fabric to build imagery, texture, and depth through slow, deliberate stitching.

This is not your typical appliqué or quilting project. This is a new way of seeing.

You will integrate multiple forms of appliqué—including needle-turn, running stitch, and raw edge—alongside thread painting using improvisational embroidery and big-stitch quilting.

These approaches offer a versatile toolkit for creating layered, expressive surfaces using uncomplicated techniques.

You will learn to observe more closely, make design choices more intentionally, and allow your ideas to evolve more organically. As you move through the techniques, you'll develop your own visual language while gaining greater confidence in your creative decisions.

By removing modern technology and working only with hand processes, you will reconnect with the fabric itself—its fibers, structures, and possibilities—returning to a more grounded, deeply engaged way of creating.

During the retreat, participants will discover:

- Multiple hand appliqué techniques, including needle-turn, running stitch, and raw edge
- Improvisational embroidery and big-stitch quilting as tools for drawing with thread
- A new way of seeing — building imagery through observation and intentional design choices
- How to develop your own visual language and trust your creative instincts
- The grounded, deeply engaged pace of working entirely by hand
- The many possibilities for applying these techniques to quilts and other textile projects.

For the class, please bring:

Fabric needs:

- A generous selection of fabric scraps in varying sizes, from approximately 7 cm to 32 cm.
- One Fat Quarter for facing or binding.

Other supplies needed:

✓ Cutting Tools:

- Rotary cutter
- Ruler
- Cutting mat (provided by the organization)
- Fabric scissors (Karen Kay Buckley's Perfect Scissors are excellent)

✓ Threads & Accessories:

- Neutral-colored 50 wt thread
- Hand sewing needle (an applique or other needle suitable)
- Sharp, fine-gauge straight pins
- General sewing supplies
- Fabric marking tool, pencil, or pen

Your Kit Includes (Supplied by Teacher)

- 30 cm x 30 cm 100% linen (several colors available for your selection)
- 30 cm x 30 cm 100% cotton muslin (for your backing)
- 30 cm x 30 cm 100% cotton batting
- An embroidery needle
- Durable zippered project bag

Available to you during the retreat (Supplied by Teacher):

- Perle 8 cotton thread, assorted colors
- Fabric paint