



# Artist Musings ~ Fiber Fusings

A Newsletter About All Things Fiber for All Fiber Lovers

Volume One

Issue Two

August 2020

## Table of Contents

- 1) Greeting  
What's Happening in My Studio ~  
Tomte update
- 2) Meet the Artist ~ Cristina  
Arcenegui Bono
- 4) Gustaf Klimt  
Recipe ~ Roasted Tomato Sauce
- 5) Upcoming Classes and Clubs ~ details  
for "In the Bag Club"
- 6) September Project ~ 3 Ring binder Bag
- 7) Class ~ Wacky Paper Dolls  
Margit Olson ~ A Journey through Art  
and Alzheimers
- 8) Upcoming events ~ OURstory exhibit at  
National Quilt Museum  
Global Quilt Connection
- 9) Mini Notebook Variation

## Greetings!

It's hard to believe that we are in the middle of August. The passing of seasons has had a new meaning in the time of Covid 19. For me, it's been a little harder to mark time without the normal events (graduation parties, Packer football camp, ArtStreet, Summer Concerts, Art Fairs, back to school sales, etc.) .....

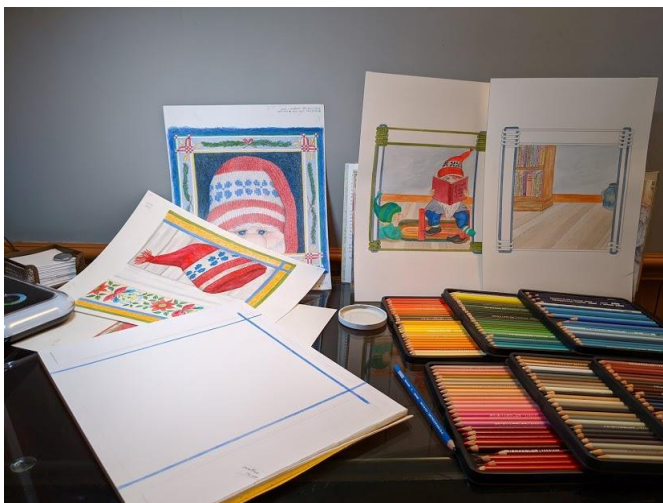
Our garden has been an interesting experiment. Our tomatoes have taken over. The eggplant, cucumbers, beans and herbs are all doing well. I lost my zucchini to dusty mildew so, I will have to keep the 100 zucchini recipes collection for next year!

If you signed up to receive my newsletter you will find past issues on the website.

Remember that this newsletter is meant to share ideas so if you have anything you would like to share, please let me know.

## What's Happening in My Studio

I have done a lot of reorganizing in my studio. One exciting bit of news—I have found a publisher to work with me on my Tomte books. With a bit of hard work the first book will be out in time for Christmas. If you want to follow the antics of my Tomte friends, you may sign up for "The Tomte



Times." The link is on my website. I have set up a drawing area so that I don't have to move all my illustration tools when I need to work on quilting projects. I have one more area to organize in the studio, then I will take you on a tour.

Have a great end to your summer. I am anxious to welcome fall in just a few weeks. That means the start up of "in the Bag Club" (see page 5).

*Birgit*



## Meet the Artist ~ Cristina Arcenegui Bono

Cristina Arcenegui Bono is an award-winning quilter based in Spain. We became facebook friends over the past few years and I have loved seeing her work. I chose Cristina as my fiber artist this month because she did a wonderful reproduction of one of my favorite

Klimt quilts (see page 4). Here is a little about Cristina in her own words:

"I grew up in the south of Spain and although I didn't started sewing until my thirties, I spent countless afternoon sitting next to my aunt and my grandmother watching them sew on a treadle machine, a machine which I proudly inherited and which got me started into quilting. I started cross stitch and knitting as a teen, but it wasn't until I saw the movie "How to make an American quilt" that I heard about patchwork for the first time. I immediately became hooked on it and I made my first quilt while pregnant with my son Pablo.

Patchwork at the beginning of the century in Spain was something very few people practiced so I took every chance to get into intensive courses whenever any teacher came to my town to give an intensive course. In 2003 I read about long arm quilting machines and I saw the perfect opportunity to work from home doing something I loved, machine quilting.

I open my machine quilting business in 2005 and I haven't stopped since them.

I have taken lectures and courses from the best artists in the patchwork industry by going to shows like New England Machine quilting festival, MQS and Houston.



Although I started making traditional quilts I quickly moved to modern quilts. My favorite thing to make is whole cloth quilts. My whole cloth quilts are far from traditional although I have a great respect for traditional whole cloths.

My quilts are very influenced by my childhood. I try to reflect the way I see the world now and as a child. Although four years ago I started making quilts based on illustrations from artists like Johanna Basford and Sveta Dorosheva, I am now moving to more whimsical quilts which are products of my imagination.

It is a joy for me to read or hear people’s comments when they see one of my quilts. I want people to smile when they see my quilts, I want to transport them to somewhere safe and joyful. If I get that response, my objective will be accomplished.



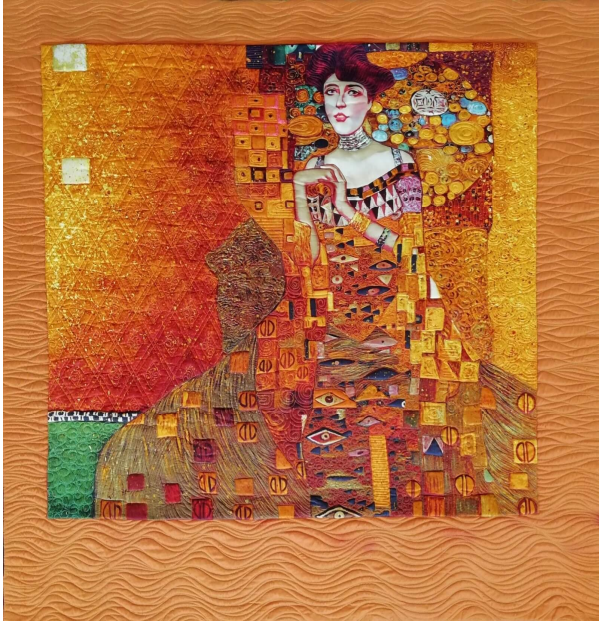
I not only quilt tops for my clients but I also travel in Spain and North America give lectures and workshops on machine quilting and whimsical applique. My quilts have been exhibited in Europe and North America winning numerous awards at Houston, Paducah, Daytona Beach, Lancaster, Manchester, Birmingham and Spain.



I was scheduled to shoot a segment for “The Quilt Show” with Ricky Timms and Alex Anderson in March this year but then the COVID hit and everything was cancelled.”

\*\*\*\*\*

*I hope that Cristina will have a chance to reschedule everything that has been affected by COVID. She will be part of the Global Quilt Connection on September 9. Her website is [www.crisarcbono.com](http://www.crisarcbono.com) and her email is [crisbono68@gmail.com](mailto:crisbono68@gmail.com).*



By Cristina Arcenegui Bono

## Gustaf Klimt

Last month, I highlighted a fabric line by Robert Kaufmann based on the artwork of Klimt. It was serendipitous for Cristina to send me a photo of her quilt of her interpretation of Klimt's 1907 painting **Adele Bloch-Bauer I**. Klimt was an Austrian painter known for his iridescent, gilded artworks set in the context of turn of the 19th century Viennese social norms. A wonderful book written by Eva de Stefano looks at his life and art. **Gustaf Klimt: Art Nouveau Visionary**.

### Roasted Tomato Sauce

We have lots of tomatoes in our garden and I decided that I am too old and crabby to go back to canning. So I started using this recipe for my tomatoes.



- ◆ ripe tomatoes quartered (4 lbs)
- ◆ 1 medium onion cut into quarters
- ◆ 4 cloves of garlic (more or less to taste)
- ◆ 2 tbsp Olive Oil to coat pan
- ◆ Salt and pepper to taste
- ◆ Optional ~ 1/2 bell pepper cut up
- ◆ 1 tbsp Fresh basil leaves chopped

Coat bottom of baking pan (I use 1/2 sheet pans that have sides with parchment paper) with olive oil. Place cut up ingredients. Salt and pepper. Toss to disperse salt and pepper and to coat ingredients with oil. Roast at 375° F. Stir occasionally. Roast until tomatoes start to caramelize (about 1 hour). The longer you roast the more the tomatoes caramelize and sweeten. Remove from oven and cool. Peel skins from tomatoes. Put all ingredients into food processor. If you are not going to use right away, you may freeze your sauce. When you take the sauce out of freezer, let thaw, then carefully spoon off watery liquid on top. Yummy!!!!!!

# Upcoming Classes and Clubs

“In the Bag” ~ zoom meeting on Third Monday at 1:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

This club features bags and things you put in bags to make them more functional. Each month offers a new technique and pattern. There are a two ways to join.

1) Basic Membership ~ **\$35.00** per year.

You will receive one pattern each month (except December) and will be able to participate in a virtual Zoom meeting to see demos and get to know other members of the club.

*Your membership lasts for one year from when you begin the club. 20% discount on kit of the month.*

2) Membership Plus ~ **\$50.00** per year.

You will receive all of benefits of basic membership plus access to demos on demand so you can refer to demos when you are working on your project.

*Membership lasts for one year from when you begin the club.*

*20 % discount on kits of the month*

Upcoming bags will include:

**September ~ 3 Ring Binder Bag** (see page 6)

\* **October ~ Cell Phone Pouch**

A little bag that you can wear on your belt or with an over the shoulder strap. It's got a few pockets and a hidden compartment for some spending money.

\* **November ~ Shopping Tote**

just in time for Holiday shopping (well maybe not this year). This tote has a nice size compartment for regular carrying, then it has a BIG compartment when the shopping gets serious. If shopping isn't in your future, you can use this great bag for a fabulous overnight bag.

*If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me @ [birgitsdesigns@new.rr.com](mailto:birgitsdesigns@new.rr.com).*

**“Table Runners/Toppers”** will be coming in January. Each month offers a technique and pattern used in a table runner or table topper. Club membership will be same as **“In the Bag”**

**“Mixed Media”** group featuring an art technique to add to your toolbox of techniques that you will use in your beautiful art quilts. This club will also start in January of 2021 with pricing same as **“In the Bag Club.”** If you are interested in this club and have a particular interest in a technique or product, let me know and I will research it.

# September Project ~ 3 Ring Binder Bag

Our “**In the Bag Club**” uses Robert Kauffman’s luscious Gustaf Klimt fabrics. The first project of “**In the Bag**” is this redesigned **3 Ring Binder Bag** (look for club details on page 5). This bag features a pocket on the outside for your phone, an over the shoulder strap, pockets inside for business cards and pencils, and a zipper pouch large enough for most iPods. Flaps on the back of the binder fold over to protect the papers in your binder.



Kit includes everything you need except your binder and the thread! (Fabric, batting, zipper, Velcro, and interfacing.) For use with binders measuring 10" x 11 ½" and 1" to 2" thick.

Prices:

**Pattern ~ free for members** (pdf download)  
**\$8.00 for non-members** (pdf download)

**Kit ~ \$35.00** (includes pdf pattern download) + \$5.00 s&h  
**Member price ~ 25.00** (includes pdf pattern download)  
+ \$5.00 s&h

Colorways: Neutral, Blue, or Red (see photos above)

(number of kits is limited ~ reserve early! Kits will ship September 14.)

A special thanks to Lindi Kuritz and Tracy Reeb for testing the pattern. If you would like to be a pattern tester in the future, contact me.



## Upcoming Class ~ Wacky Paper Dolls

Part 1 ~ November 9 (1 & 7 cst zoom)

Part 2 ~ November 23 (1 & 7 cst zoom)

Meet Topsy the Toe Dancer.

She is the prototype for an upcoming class.

You will receive a kit that includes:

- ◆ patterns for all sorts of body shapes, and interesting clothing
- ◆ Printed facial features
  - ◆ a pressing sheet
  - ◆ Parchment paper
    - ◆ Misty fuse
    - ◆ 2 Micron Pens

You don't need to be able to draw to end up with a crazy paper doll. You will learn a few tricks to make great backgrounds and patterned fabric. Supply list will be sent when you sign up.

Cost: \$40.00 (+\$5.00 s&h)

Sign up now ~ Limited space

Just in time for some fun holiday gifts.

The next newsletter will include a few more examples. These are so much fun!



## A Journey through Art & Alzheimer's Of Margit Olson

For the August meeting of Evergreen Quilters Guild, I did a presentation about Margit, my sister, and how her artwork changed as she struggled with Alzheimer's. Her artwork was affected by the medications that she was given. Through it all, she loved her time making

art. We are working at getting a link to the presentation available on my website. If you are an Evergreen member, you are able to view it through the Evergreen website. If you are not, please check around September 1. I need to set up some accounts and do the "technical stuff" that takes me a little time.

## Upcoming events

All of the quilts from the exhibit **OURstory: Human Rights Stories in Art Quilts** (curated by Susanne Miller Jones) will be at the National Quilt Museum in Paducah from June 12 through September 8, 2020. My quilt **Becoming Ryleigh** from this exhibit is pictured here. I have a number of signed copies of the book (by Susanne Miller Jones) that showcases this exhibit. Regular price is \$35.00, now selling for \$25.00. Discount good through September. Contact me at [birgitsdesigns@new.rr.com](mailto:birgitsdesigns@new.rr.com)

---



Is your guild looking for ways to keep your membership connected and engaged while adhering to social distancing guidelines? Our virtual meet the teachers events are an opportunity for your guild program chairs to meet teachers from all over the globe who are offering live virtual online workshops and lecture programs.

**All of the teachers that are presenting 3 minute quips are all available to lecture or teach on line—virtual.**

I will be presenting on September 9th. Meeting starts at 3:00 cst. If you are interested in attending or learning more about *Global Quilt Connection*, please go to the website: [globalquiltconnection.com](http://globalquiltconnection.com)

All lectures listed on my website can be delivered by Zoom. If your guild is meeting by Zoom, I would love to talk to you about a Zoom presentation.

# NEED

To help get my business started, I am offering a little incentive. Invite your friends to sign up for my newsletter. For each referral that sign's up, I will credit you with \$1.00 toward kits, classes or clubs on my website. Just email me the names and email addresses so I can track them and I will email you and issue you credit when your friend has signed up for the newsletter.



## Mini Notebook and Business Card Holder ~ Variation 2

When you signed up for this newsletter, you received a pattern for a Mini Notebook and Business Card Holder. Here is another little variation for your Mini Notebook – **some hand embroidery, beads and charms.**

On this example I used a little silver thread to stitch a dashed swirling line, added little blue beads and a dragonfly charm. The dragonfly was glued down with a bit of E6000 cement and then stitched down with silver thread.



The stitching and beading was done before the cover is assembled. If you refer to the original pattern, you would stitch after you complete step E.

Please note: the notebook that this holder covers is a top-bound spiral notebook 3" x 5". It was listed in the description but I neglected to add it to the supply list.

These little Notebooks are wonderful for party favors. If it's something that you would like and don't have the time, let me know. I charge \$8.00 per notebook (with notebook included) and \$10.00 for custom designed covers with embroidery or beading (for Bridal or Baby Showers, etc.)

*Til next time, keep creating*

*Love, Birgit*

birgitsdesigns@new.rr.com  
www.birgitsdesigns.com