

MARGIE'S MUSE

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Neutral palette (black and white)



Semi-neutral palette (just a hint of color)



Heliconia in fully saturated palette

Saturation

by Margie Deeb

June 2006

Brew the components of value, hue, and saturation together and you've got color. Of these three, saturation is the seasoning, enabling you to concoct a dynamic range of palettes.

Saturation, also referred to as intensity, is the amount of hue that is in a color. From the subtlety of neutral colors to lively, tangy super-saturated palettes, the overall flavor of what you create derives much of its impact from the saturation level of your palette.

Neutral colors are characterized by a lack of saturation: black, white, and grays. Grays vary in their compositional makeup, and can be chromatic or achromatic.

Black and white photos exemplify a neutral palette. Lacking hue, they must rely on value - the degree of lightness and darkness - to convey form and spatial relationships. Black and white photos and most neutral images are not the way we normally view the world, so they are often associated with cerebral functions like dreams, imagination, or memories. Many films, including *The DaVinci Code*, present flashbacks in neutral or less saturated colors. Neutral palettes suggest a conservative elegance that is restrained and gentle.

Semi-neutral palettes wield a low level of saturation. Photographer Matias Bilbao describes them this way: "Semi-neutrals affect us in subtler ways than fully saturated colors. The ways they move us are often delicate, nuanced and at times



Super saturated palette of Chihuly glass

highly complex... we all seem to enjoy sepia and warm-toned images, describing them as classic and timeless."

Fully saturated palettes are the most representational; they depict the way most of us view the world. Straightforward color photography uses the fully saturated palette. Fully saturated palettes express more energy than neutral and semi-neutral palettes, because of their vibrancy.

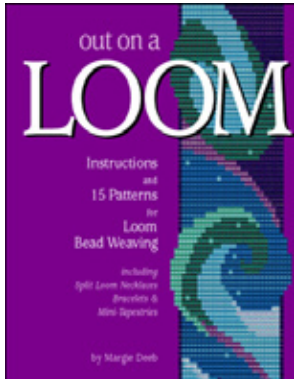
Advertising graphics, fabrics, plastics, and contemporary paintings use super-saturated palettes of over-the-top colors to arrest attention and delight (or shock) viewers. Think of Matisse's paper cut outs or Gauguin's tropical paintings. These bold sometimes surreal palettes have contemporary connotations.

There are many degrees of saturation for a color and for a palette in general. Step closer to color mastery by choosing your levels purposefully.

For more issues of Margie's Muse, visit MargieDeeb.com/muse

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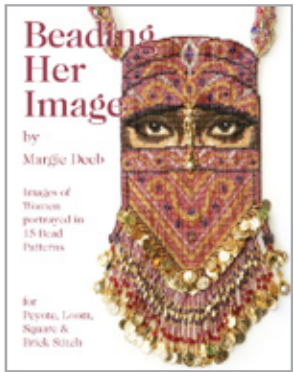
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Out On A Loom is a creative journey through color, design, and form for the beginning to intermediate level seed bead artist.

The softcover book features 32 full-color pages of detailed instructions, patterns, illustrations, and diagrams for creating loom woven bracelets, mini-tapestries and split loom necklaces. Professional and creative finishing techniques are provided so each finished project can be a work of art.

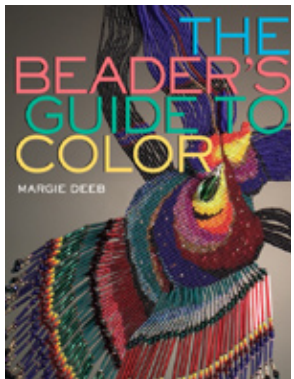
\$19.95 US Dollars



Beading Her Image illustrates the power and beauty of the feminine in 15 seed bead patterns for **peyote, brick, square stitch, and loomwork**. Women from a wide range of times and cultures are woven into tapestries, necklaces, and bracelets. The stunning and gorgeous color palettes that artist Margie Deeb is known for adorn each piece.

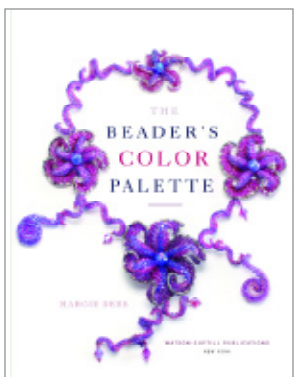
Includes loom building instructions, finishing split loom necklace instructions, and peyote, brick, and looming instructions. (Paperback, 44 pages)

\$19.95 US Dollars



The only book of its kind written specifically for bead artists, *The Beader's Guide to Color* teaches bead artists of all levels everything they need to know about color to create unique and vibrant beadwork designs. Margie discusses psychological and symbolic color associations, and ways in which color can be used to create and accentuate pattern, rhythm, and movement. 21 color schemes are described and illustrated in detail with accompanying projects for all skill levels. (Paperback, 144 pages)

\$21.95 US Dollars

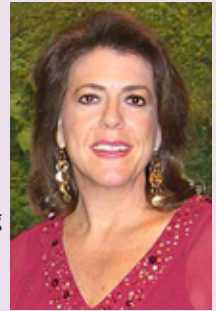


The Beader's Color Palette: 20 Creative Projects and 220 Inspired Combinations for Beaded and Gemstone Jewelry opens the door to worlds of color inspiration. Gather colors from around the planet to create stunning color schemes for beaded creations. Gorgeous beaded jewelry illustrating 220 specific palettes for glass and gemstone beads make *The Beader's Color Palette* a coffee table book of inspiration for color lovers working in every medium. Includes detailed instructions for stringing, finishing, looming, and off-loom stitches. (Paperback, 192 pages)

\$24.95 US Dollars

Artist, designer, musician, and color expert

Margie Deeb is the author of several beading books, including the popular *The Beader's Guide to Color* and *The Beader's Color Palette* (Watson-Guptill, 2008).



She teaches color courses for artists, interior designers, and bead artists and her free monthly color column, "Margie's Muse," is available on her website. She produces a free graphically enhanced podcast, "Margie Deeb's Color Celebration," available on iTunes.

Her articles have appeared in *Bead & Button* and *Beadwork* magazines, and she writes a regular color column in *Step-by-Step Beads*. Visit Margie's website for her books, patterns, jewelry, inspiration, and more:

www.MargieDeeb.com

Also available at MargieDeeb.com:

- Exquisite **seed bead patterns** in peyote, brick, square stitch, and loom available as downloadable PDFs or hardcopies
- **CMY Color Wheels** (the ones that Margie uses for herself and in her classes)
- **Accessories** for beading, such as tapestry rods, and unusual findings
- **Gallery of extraordinary bead art**
- Information about **classes/events**
- **Gallery of Your Work**
- Graphically enhanced **podcasts**

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