

MARGIE'S MUSE

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The Art of Color for Bead Artists

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Excerpted from *The Beader's Color Palette* (Watson Guptill, June 2008)

ARTISTS' HISTORICAL PALETTES: Modern Art

by Margie Deeb

June 2008

From the late 19th century on, artists rebelled. They experimented with new materials and new ways of seeing. They examined and redefined the very function of art. We refer to "modern art" as the time when artists parted from representational art.

Movements came and went, centralized in various parts of Europe and America, many overlapping and blending. Each movement had its own ideas about color, its function, and how to use it.

Claude Monet and the Impressionists were obsessed with painting light and used lots of shimmering colors, side-by-side, to achieve fleeting visual sensations.

The four major Postimpressionists expanded upon impressionists' ways, and developed their own singular style. Van Gogh and Seurat were fascinated with the act of painting itself, focusing on thick swabs of paint or many tiny dots of color. Like a scientist, Cezanne studied and tested color repeatedly to learn what he could of its power to give structure to form. Through color intensity alone, rather than light and dark, he achieved solidity and fullness of form. Gauguin began to free color from its constraints of copying nature, and used brilliant, unpredictable tones and combinations.



In *Sea to Sky*, Robin Atkins reflects Monet's shimmering Impressionist palette. Vintage Thai silver, pressed glass, and lampworked beads.

Photo by Margie Deeb.



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Robin Atkins found inspiration for "All That Jazz" in the profusion of color, line, and form of Wassily Kandinsky's abstract compositions. Improvisational bead embroidery. Vintage pressed glass, blown glass dangles.

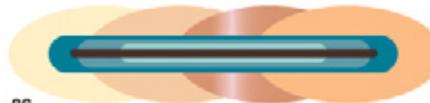
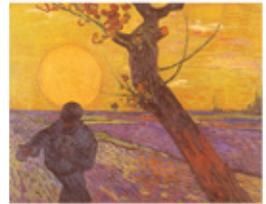
Photo by Margie Deeb.

SUGGESTED PALETTES INSPIRED BY MODERN ART



85

Van Gogh Warmth. To simplify working with so many colors, think in terms of groups: the warm yellow oranges and the lavenders. Yellow-green (DB-372) stands alone as a lucious accent to be used judiciously and positioned carefully, where you want emphasis. Delicas: DB-651, DB-773, DB-781, DB-694, DB-799, DB-372, DB-160, DB-795



86

Degas' Dancers. A gorgeous variation on the blue/orange complementary harmony loosely inspired by a Degas pastel drawing. All is gentle, soft, and muted except a minute and powerfully sharp accent of deep brown (DB-734). Delicas: DB-203, DB-208, DB-054, DB-067, DB-788, DB-792, DB-375, DB-734



89

Tropical Brights. Gauguin's rebellious nature and love of brilliant color freed him from the Impressionists' palettes of low contrast. He introduced colors from Oceania to modern art. I've omitted the black and flesh tones used in the painting (right) to focus on an array of brights. Use only a speck of blue, as he did for the girl's collar. Delicas: DB-914, DB-744, DB-160, DB-232, DB-746, DB-919, DB-057



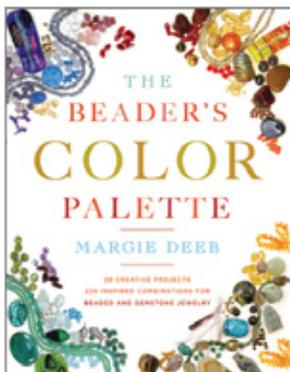
Both the necklace on page 1 and the embroidered pin on this page are the creations of nationally known bead artist, teacher and author Robin Atkins. *The Beader's Color Palette* is filled with her innovative bead art and extraordinary use of color. Visit Robin at www.robinatkins.com

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

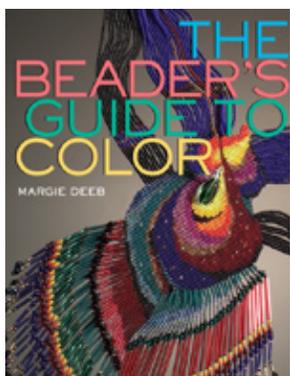
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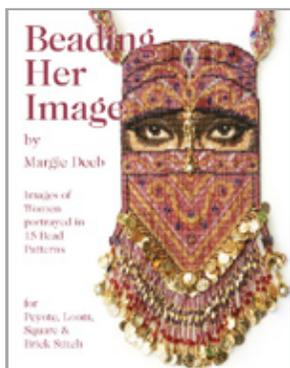
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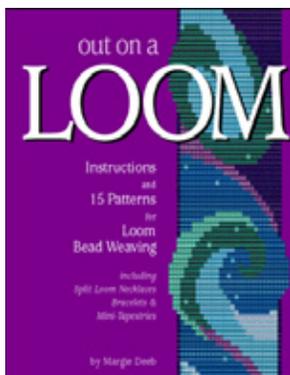
The Beader's Color Palette: 20 Creative Projects and 220 Inspired Combinations for Beaded and Gemstone Jewelry opens the door to worlds of color inspiration. Gather from history, culture, and our planet to create stunning color schemes for beaded creations. Gorgeous beaded jewelry illustrating 220 specific 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



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



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



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. (Paperback, 36 pages)
\$19.95 US Dollars

Artist, designer, musician, and color expert



Margie Deeb is the author of several books, including the popular *The Beader's Guide*

to Color and *The Beader's Color Palette*.

She teaches color courses for artists, interior designers, and bead artists. 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*. She has appeared on the PBS show "Beads, Baubles, and Jewels" speaking about color. Visit Margie's website for her books, patterns, jewelry, inspiration, and more:
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Margie's Blog:

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The Art of Color for Bead Artists
April 2008

The Beader's Color Palette
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By the way, this month's "Margie's Muse" is an excerpt from the "Cultures of Our World" chapter of the book.

Margie's Muse
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This month learn to work beautiful patterns with traditional colors of Latin America. Get inspired from *The Beader's Color Palette*.
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Listeners to Color

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