

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: The Baroque Period

by Margie Deeb

July 2008

Following the age of discovery that marked the Renaissance, the Baroque age of expansion encompasses 17th and early 18th century European art. As its art spread outward from Rome, each country added its influence to come up with a Baroque style of its own. The various styles became complex and contradictory, but underlying them all we find drama, vitality, movement, tension, and emotional exuberance. In general, the goal of Baroque art was to evoke emotion by appealing to the senses in dramatic ways. Much of the Italian Baroque tended toward overwhelmingly grandiose displays, like Bernini's opulent and extravagant chapel and adornments of St. Peter's Basilica.

Baroque painters were fascinated with light, be it in sharp and sudden bursts, or slightly shifting modulations. The intense drama of Caravaggio's paintings come from his sharply defined light with deep obscuring shadows. Rembrandt's work relies on dramatic golden light to portray spiritual stillness.

Vermeer, a poet of light and color, rendered color amazingly true to life, filling dark shadows with color, and modifying reflective color.

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"Spirit Dancer" Frieda Bates' gold and dichroic glass necklace takes its sensual richness from Baroque interiors. Photo by Margie Deeb.



The Palace of Versailles, France

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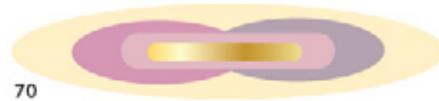


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Using the gold and black of many a Baroque painting, Margie Deeb creates drama in this necklace of hand-made ceramic beads and glass. Photo by Margie Deeb.

SUGGESTED PALETTES INSPIRED BY BAROQUE ART



70

Baroque Grandeur. A sensuous palette of ivory, gold, and marble grayed-pinks mirror the grandeur of the Baroque. The architectural elements of Herrenchiemsee palace hall (below) share warmer versions of these colors, and its palette of ceiling murals includes myriad pastel and muted tones.

Delicas: DB-203, DB-253, DB-728, DB-210, DB-031



73

Baldacchino. Bernini, one of the most imaginative and brilliant artists of the Baroque, is considered its most characteristic and sustaining spirit. This combination of metallics and black is inspired by Bernini's baldacchino for St. Peter's Basilica, constructed of extravagantly detailed gilt bronze.

Delicas: DB-310, DB-011, DB-022, DB-254, DB-031



74

Caravaggio's Drama. The most influential painter of the Baroque, Caravaggio took the depiction of light and shadow to new levels with his revolutionary technique of tenebrism: dramatic illumination of selected forms from out of dark shadow. This high contrast palette of limited hue honors his contribution to art.

Delicas: DB-734, DB-011, DB-280, DB-654, DB-1302, DB-353



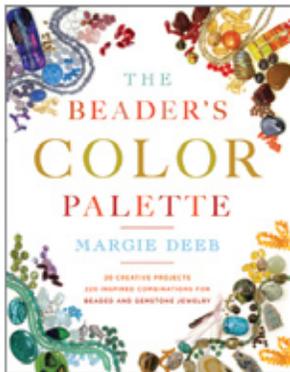
The Death of the Virgin
Caravaggio
1600

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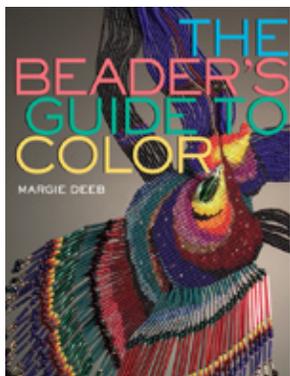
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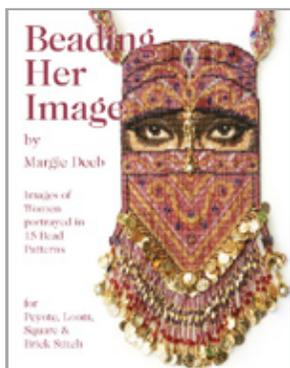
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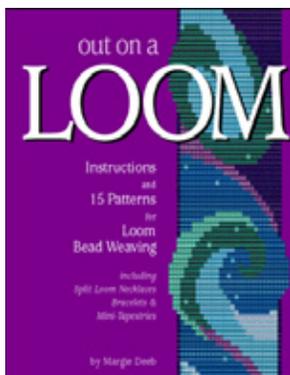
The Beader's Color Palette: 20 Creative Projects and 220 Inspired Combinations for Beaded and Gemstone Jewelry opens the door to worlds of color inspiration. Gather from history, culture, and our planet to create stunning color schemes for beaded creations. Gorgeous beaded jewelry illustrating 220 specific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