

# MARGIE'S MUSE

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The Art of Color for Bead Artists

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## The 2008 Color of the Year

by Margie Deeb

September 2008

My latest publication, [\*The Fall/Winter 2008 Color Report for Bead Artists\*](#), features Pantone's ten colors of the season. Through words, palettes, and photos, I show you how to work with them to create cracklin' good bead art!

Let's explore the color Pantone has chosen as the 2008 Color of the Year. But before I do, let me answer a question many of you have asked me...

### What, or Who, is Pantone?

**Pantone, Inc.** is the world-renowned authority on color. For more than 45 years, Pantone has been inspiring design professionals with products, services and leading technology for the colorful exploration and expression of creativity.

Each year, innumerable products and services are sold by Pantone and its hundreds of licensees in over 100 countries in the graphic arts, fashion, home, interior, plastics, architectural, paint, industrial design and consumer markets.

### And the Color of the Year is...

Blue Iris, a beautifully balanced blue-purple.

"Combining the stable and calming aspects of blue with the mystical and spiritual qualities of purple, Blue Iris satisfies the need for reassurance in a complex world, while adding a hint of mystery and excitement.

"From a color forecasting perspective, we have chosen PANTONE 18-3943 Blue Iris as the color of the year, as it best represents color direction in 2008 for fashion, cosmetics and home products," explains Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute®. "As a reflection of the times, Blue Iris brings together the dependable aspect of blue, underscored by a strong, soul-searching purple cast. Emotionally, it is anchoring and meditative with a touch of magic. Look for it artfully combined with deeper plums, red-browns, yellow-greens, grapes and grays."

I love this shade because its a regal and grand color, full of mystery and enchantment. Blue Iris is right in between blue and violet, and because it's not fully saturated, I'd call it a bit "dusty." It commands attention no matter how you use it, because of the red undertones, and the air of mystery it creates.

Surround yourself with fabric or items awash in Blue Iris and you'll feel its magic. How can you incorporate this gorgeous color into your beadwork, your home, your wardrobe, and your life?

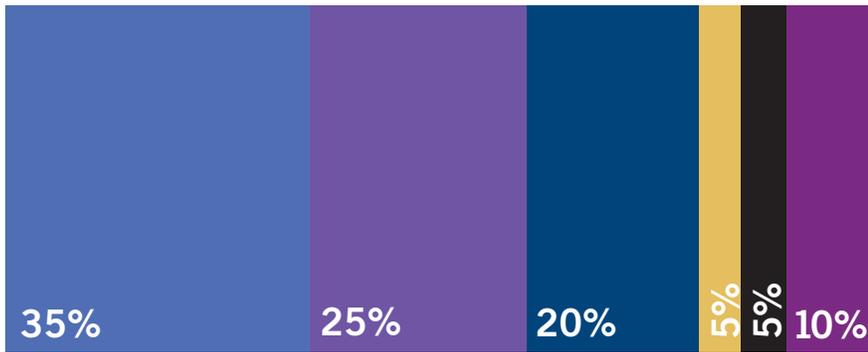


Margie Deeb combines tints and tones of BLUE IRIS into free-form bead embroidered earrings. Chalcedony and glass.  
Photo by Margie Deeb.

*"A multifaceted hue reflecting the complexity of the world that surrounds us."*

For more of Margie's Muse, visit [MargieDeeb.com/muse](http://MargieDeeb.com/muse)

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Blue Iris, Royal Lilac, Twilight Blue, Ochre, black, and a jewel-toned purple (lots of red in it!) make a majestic scheme. Treat the Ochre as if it were sparkling stars. Add gold findings and be amazed!

Here is one of my favorite palettes I created in this season's [\*The Fall/Winter 2008 Color Report for Bead Artists.\*](#)

It features Blue iris as the dominant colors, and accent colors that are both of the ten seasonal palette, and not members.

I've used the palette above in the design to the right (vector art from iStock Photo). Notice the darkest and lightest tones (black and yellow ochre) are placed right next to each other to create high contrast in one concentrated area of the composition, thus giving this pattern a strong focal point.

In this design, Blue Iris holds it all together - it is the background color, and is used at the top and bottom, stabilizing the whole.

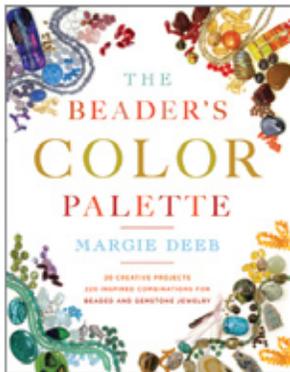


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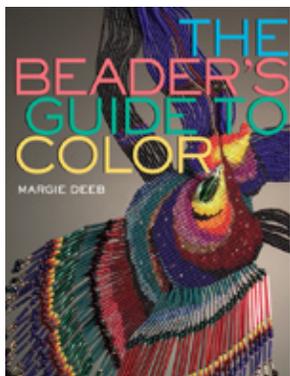
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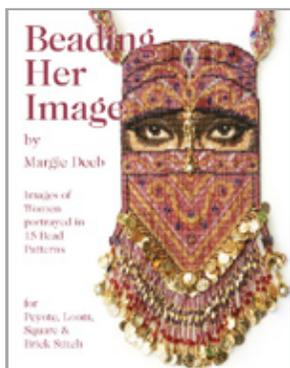
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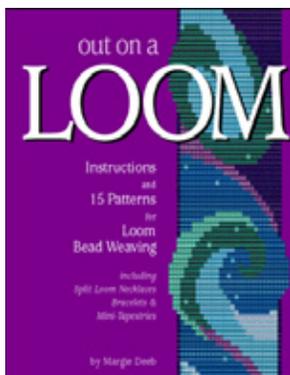
*The Beader's Color Palette: 20 Creative Projects and 220 Inspired Combinations for Beaded and Gemstone Jewelry* opens the door to worlds of color inspiration. Gather from history, culture, and our planet to create stunning color schemes for beaded creations. Gorgeous beaded jewelry illustrating 220 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:  
[www.MargieDeeb.com](http://www.MargieDeeb.com)

Margie's Blog:

[colorforbeadartists.com](http://colorforbeadartists.com)

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April 2008

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Color Report for Bead Artists Spring/Summer '08  
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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.

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Listeners to Color

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