

IRIS Events

BRANDON MABLY Kaffe Fassett Design Studio

2-DAY COLOR AND DESIGN KNITTING WORKSHOP

Sunday and Monday April 18 and 19 10 – 4:30 pm
Atlas Coffee Mill and Café, 425 W. Water Street, Appleton
Fee \$150 Rowan International Members 10% off

Enjoy a two day creative knitting workshop with Brandon Mably from the Kaffe Fassett Design Studio. These workshops will be for knitters who are interested in sharpening their color observation in design. Each workshop is limited to 30 students. Participants should know how to knit and purl – only the basic stocking stitch will be used in the workshop.

This course inspires knitters to sharpen their observation of color by working from source material and a wide range of yarns. Then they move on to applying the color to a pattern in graph form. The experience gained should give knitters the confidence to use their own personal color scheme in any of their own designs in the future.

Workshop Content

Day 1 Brandon Mably will give an introduction on how to interpret colors from source material into a swatch. He will then help the class participants to choose their source materials from a collection of postcards he will provide. Brandon will demonstrate the method of carrying yarn in fairisle and intarsia knitting and then work with students as they apply the technique to their own knitting. Attention will be paid to color, texture, pattern and everyone will work on a swatch using at least 20 colors. Only the basic stocking stitch will be used.

Day 2 Participants may continue to work on their swatch or they may try choosing their own colors from a Kaffe Fassett design which will be provided on a graph. Brandon will critique everyone's work in the afternoon.

The workshop each day will last for 6 working hours with a 1 hour break for lunch. Coffee breaks will be provided during the day.

Students Material List

- Knitting needles – whichever size is most comfortable for the student, suggest a range of US 6-8.
- Scissors
- At least 6 light or bright colors and 6 dark or deeper colors of yarns in small quantities.
- Notebook and pencil (optional)
- Camera (optional)

BIOGRAPHY: BRANDON MABLY

Raised in a small seaside town on the coast of South Wales, Brandon Mably has been interested in color and design since he was young. According to author/designer and Mably mentor, Kaffe Fassett, Mably has “one of the sharpest eyes for style” that he has ever come across.

With no formal education in design, Mably made a radical career change from cooking to knitting in the late 1980's after a chance meeting with the world famous Fassett. From the moment he entered Fassett's studio, Mably realized the creative potential of knitwear designs and promptly became Fassett's apprentice.

For many years, Mably organized the running of the Fassett studio, where Fassett trained him to knit, needlepoint, hook rag rugs and grout mosaics. An inspiring teacher, Mably began traveling the world with Fassett doing workshops. Exotic locales such as Africa, Iceland, Guatemala and India filled his designer's eye with inspiration and an explosion of color and pattern. An avid and enthusiastic teacher, Mably has learned one thing over the years – that most people have buried in them a sense of color and design. And it is helping his students discover that design sensibility that continues to inspire and motivate Mably's work.

Mably's current workshop is entitled “Concentrating on Color and Design” and focuses on knitting, needlepoint and patchwork. Since taking over the knit workshops for Fassett altogether, he has taught throughout the United States, Canada, Japan, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Iceland, France, Germany and the UK.

BRILLIANT KNITS (Taunton Press 2001), the first book of Mably's own knitwear designs, contains a stunning collection of unique designs for men and women. Rapidly gaining in popularity, Mably has emerged from the Kaffe Fassett Studio to become one of the leading lights in contemporary knitwear fashions and shares the same passion for color that can be found in Fassett's own designs.

Brandon's second book “KNITTING COLOR” (Soho Publishing) was published Spring 2007 and is based on inspiration Mably has found on his world wide travels and how he translates ideas into a design through his encouraging style of teaching workshops.

Mably's designs have also appeared in Kaffe's Classics, The Knitting Bible, Vogue Knitting Baby Book, Welcome Home, Best of Rowan, Ultimate Knitter's Guide as well as in various issues of Vogue Knitting International. Mably has been featured in the Winter 2000 issue of Rowan's International Knit Magazine's “Designer Profile” and Vogue Knitting magazine's Millenium men's issue.