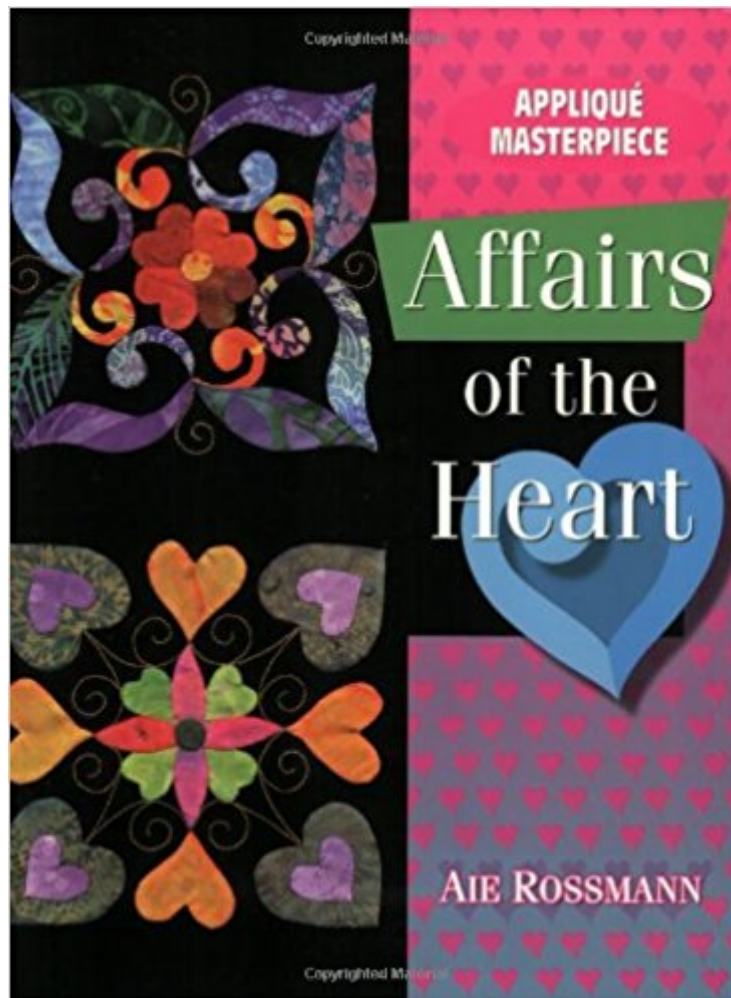




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Affairs Of The Heart (Applique Masterpiece)



Synopsis

Affairs of the Heart is a quilt with 36 appliqued blocks on a black background, each integrating a heart motif in some manner. The blocks are intricate in appearance, yet easy enough to be tackled by novices with basic applique skills. Even the experts will find themselves engaged in the delicacy of the exquisite design elements and the vividness of the florals, influenced by the author's Burmese background. Aie (pronounced a) adds scrolls and scallops to her borders. The blocks are a manageable size, so each one can be completed within a single sitting. While the author made the quilt by hand with the needle-turn method, the designs lend themselves to other applique methods and could easily be done by machine. Using a variety of fabrics and thread colors gives depth to the design and adds to the vibrancy of the quilt.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Aie Rossmann's Affairs of the Heart is also a winner for all skills levels. Aie Rossmann's applique, guide blends flowing designs with vivid color schemes and almost 40 blocks linked by a heart motif. Choose this for any loving gift for Valentine's Day presentation, accenting the result with the scrolls and scallops recommended within for border accents. -Midwest Book Review

An architect by trade, Aie (pronounced like a long A) is also skilled at drawing quilt designs. She

began quilting while taking a break from her professional career to raise a family. Originally from Myanmar, formerly called Burma, Aie brings Southeast Asian influence to many of her designs and color schemes. The most recognizable aspects about the quilts she makes are their stylized, scrolled designs appliqued in bright colors on a dark background.

This book of hand embroidery supplements the design CD files and instructions for machine embroidery. I prefer hardcopy photos of the designs and instructions as I can read and flip through the colorful pages better than squinting on the computer. The fabric placement are clearly identified and and instructions are easy to follow. The only drawback is the author's technique to use and sizing the fabric background, stabilizer and batting. There is a lot of waste of background (black fabric) fabric as she starts with a 10" block size and it is cut down to a 7" block before piecing the blocks together. Just be aware that her approach is different than other machine embroidery approach to hooping and sandwiching the stabilizer, batting and background fabric. My plan is to cut the background fabric at 9" and placed it on top of the hooped stabilizer and 9" batting. Then I will square off the embroidered block down to 8" before piecing the blocks together.

I've had my eye on this book for quite awhile but had too many unfinished projects to contend with. But I bought it for myself as a late holiday gift and I'm in love with it. I own dozens of quilt books and patterns and this book is very thorough. It's not dimensional applique so there's really not a lot of instruction needed. It tells you a few different ways to do applique, then gives you a close-up color photo on one side and the full page pattern on the opposite page. It even has the full pattern for the borders. You can't miss with this book. That said, the blocks are 7" finished size so some pieces can get a little tiny on certain blocks. If you have arthritis, this handwork might be a little too small. I suppose you could simply enlarge a pattern too. The part I like is getting to use up my plastic bin of batik and colorful scraps. And I love love love bright applique on black fabric. Gorgeous.

I purchased this book to participate in a Block of the Month quilt along. After looking through the book, directions and photos, I opted not to participate. The blocks are somewhat repetitive, which is expected based on the title.....hearts. The blocks are tiny and the methods explained to create the blocks are awkward and difficult versus standard appliqué methods. Some of the blocks are pretty, just there was no wow factor.

Just remember to reverse images if you do machine appliqué. Was surprised that the blocks in

the book were so poorly made .I would have thought that the author would have wanted them to be as near to perfect as possible.

Purchased item for a quilting bee project. Each lady purchased the book and we are each making our own quilt with this book. While the technique is fairly easy, the book isn't very descriptive when it comes to the applique technique. I have been quilting for 15 years so I already know how to applique so not an issue for me, but for a beginner there isn't enough info in the book to be easily understood. Also we are using the pattern as a raw edge applique using the pellon heat and bond product as well and then using stitching to cover the raw edge to finish the quilt patterns. Her pattern pics are very rudimentary while nice from a distance, when you look close at the pictures you can see she's not a very accomplished appliquer, which is surprising since she's published a book, at least to me. I would have been a bit more professional when it came to close up pics of my work. Some of the pieces of the pattern are very small and very difficult for beginners to applique - As I stated, we are using raw edge applique and it's difficult enough to get small machine stitches to make the pieces retain their shape and pattern, let alone trying to make small applique hand stitches and keep the pattern looking nice.. Overall, I like the patterns but have put my own twist on them and will be happy once it's finished as I like the idea of the book and pattern, but felt that it could have been better presented. In my own opinion, I feel that I could have made this type of pattern, sold the idea to a book company and made the money she seems to be making from this idea and it's not that great a pattern. her fabric choices for the quilt in close up are not very cohesive but rather patchy-looking, which for some is nice, but as I have made quite a few of the blocks already, a more cohesive thought to what fabrics to use is needed i.e. batiks and coordinating fabrics with some thought put into how it will look when finished. Mine will not look like hers when finished as I'm adding "bling" to my blocks to enhance and bring out the designs, which is really what I think she should have done, but to each her own!! I would tell others to purchase the book as the patterns leave you with ideas of how to make the pattern yours. Good for those who have done applique and understand how to do it, beginners will have problems with the smaller pieces and learning how to turn them under to make them correct when finished.

Good book. I'm fairly new to applique though and I would suggest not starting with the first block in the book as it seems to be the hardest one. If your a pro this book will be easy for you, if not, you might feel like giving up after that first block. I saw such a lovely completed project that I want to keep at it.

Clear instructions and great patterns... I can't wait to get this one started!

The Affairs of the Heart quilt is very popular and kits with fusible applique are available but for me I wanted the patterns and instructions from the creator of this prize winning quilt in addition to quilting class instructions. I was pleased to find it easily on for a better price than some other sources.

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