

Amy's

needlework supplies & classes

FEB/MAR 2020

LEAPING FORWARD

what's inside this month

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AND MORE!

The January sale was so exciting and loads of fun to see what people choose. We hardly noticed the nasty weather, varying temperatures or my permanently muddy dog while we pulled threads, taped canvases and bagged guides. Now we are heading into the grayest month of our year, so I have started some Paperwhite bulbs in a large glass jar to add a spark of cheer in the window of my stitching room.

We are leaping forward into 2020 with the release of a new book by Mary Legallet along with new clubs and classes starting very soon. Be sure to check out the Patriotic Cake Club by Cindy McKown; it is positively yummy. Spring brings two trade shows with potential jaw-dropping designs, tools and threads. We plan to attend the Nashville Market on Saturday March 7 and the Orlando Spring Needlepoint Market March 21 - 23. Watch our Facebook page for updates on goodies shortly after the markets.



Amy's Golden Strand

3808 Summer Avenue

Memphis, TN 38122

phone: 901.458.6109

fax: 901.323.4701

HOME STUDY HOUSEPLANTS

BY MARY CHARLES FROM PAINTED PONY

We are soon off and running on a new Home Study Project. Mary Charles has some fabulous artwork, which translates beautifully into needlepoint designs. I selected one, **Houseplants**, to use for the 2020 Home Study and another, **Haven**, to add to our 2020 Pick Your Poison Class. Maybe one of these will tickle your fancy.



Houseplants demonstrates a fanciful sense of humor in the depiction of three house-like pots; one even with a penthouse garden. The details of the houses opened opportunities for specialty beads, wired applique', decorative stitches, and colorful threads.

Be sure to google Mary Charles to look at her wonderful collection of artwork. The original of **Houseplants** shows that the green grassy base under the pots is really a table top complete with drawers below.

Canvas \$251⁰⁰
Kit Prices are TBD

ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE

There will be 6 kits to complete the project starting in February 2020.

February:

Wall & Center Pot

May:

Striped Pot

March:

Blue & White Pot and
Book on the Right

June:

Books & Table

April:

Oranges & Maidenhair
Fern

July:

Penthouse Garden and
Beading



Haven is part of our Pick Your Posion Class for 2020, page 7.

HOME STUDY HOUSEPLANTS

Check out some of the details Amy has been working on.



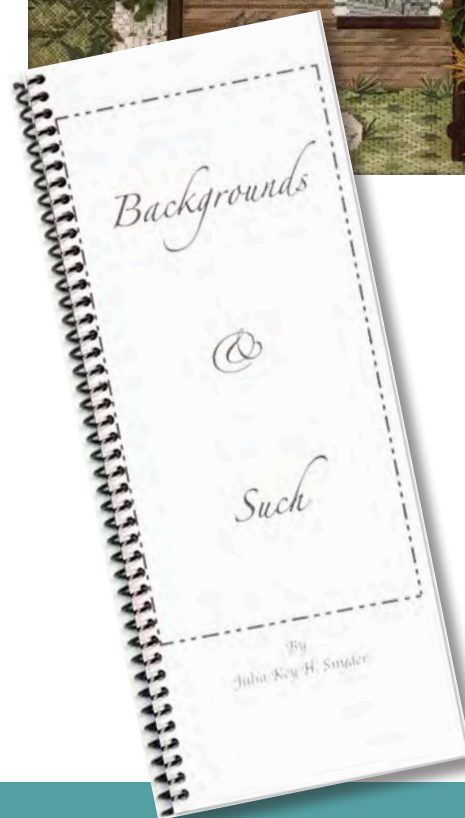
BACKGROUND SUGGESTIONS

JULIA SNYDER BOOKS

The background stitch I selected for the new Home Study project is called "My Hero" and was designed by Julia Snyder. Julia has designed some fabulous patterns in Tent Stitch and I have used many of them for backgrounds. This pattern is available in "Just Stitches I Use" but you need to check out all of her books on our Website.



Nativity
Home Study -
Background
Crosses from
"Backgrounds &
Such" by Julia
Snyder page 9
with slight
variation.



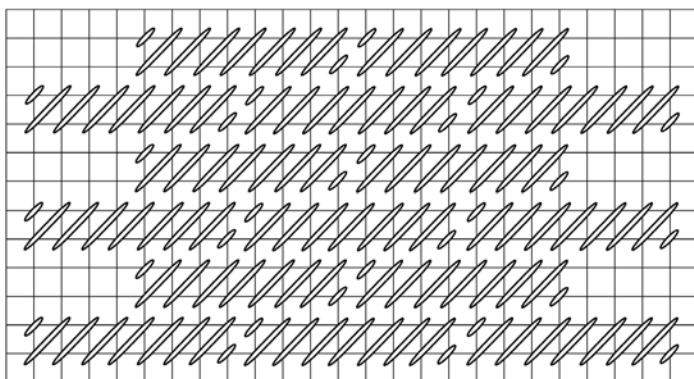
Wolfman - Kisses from
"Backgrounds &
Such" by Julia Snyder
page 11.

HOW'D YOU DO THAT

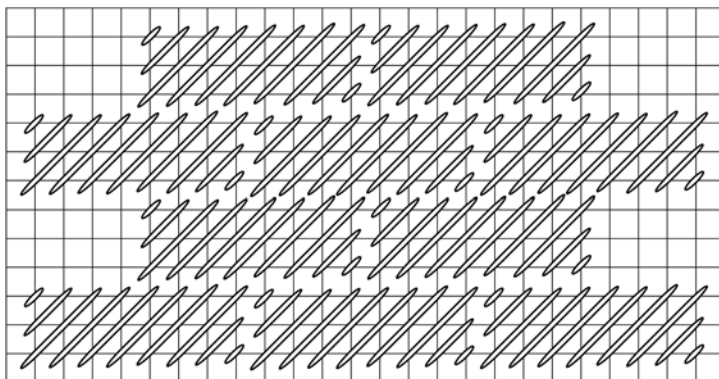
BRICK AND MORTAR

Every year I write several guides on canvases that involve architecture of one kind or another and am amazed how many canvases out there have a building, wall, path, or even a flower pot house painted into the design. Whether you face a brick wall or a building edifice on your needlepoint canvas, you might want to check out the wide world of Cashmere. Cashmere is a rectangular pattern of slanted satin stitches that can be any size, horizontal or vertical in configuration, off-set into a bricked design, condensed to obscure the definite rectangle, framed by Continental or long stitches to mimic mortar, or manipulated into a parquet pattern for floors or patios.

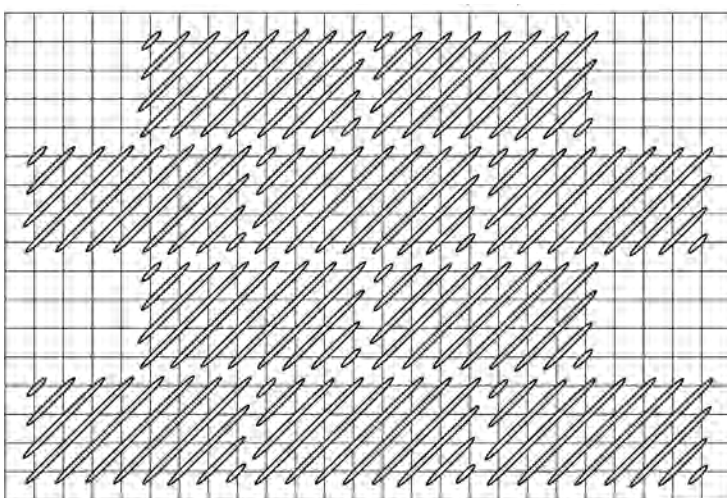
HORIZONTAL BRICKED CASHMERE (8 X 2)



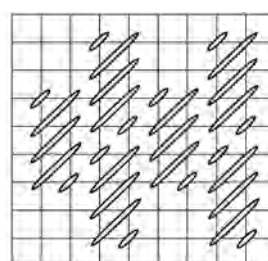
HORIZONTAL BRICKED CASHMERE (8 X 3)



HORIZONTAL BRICKED CASHMERE (8 X 4)



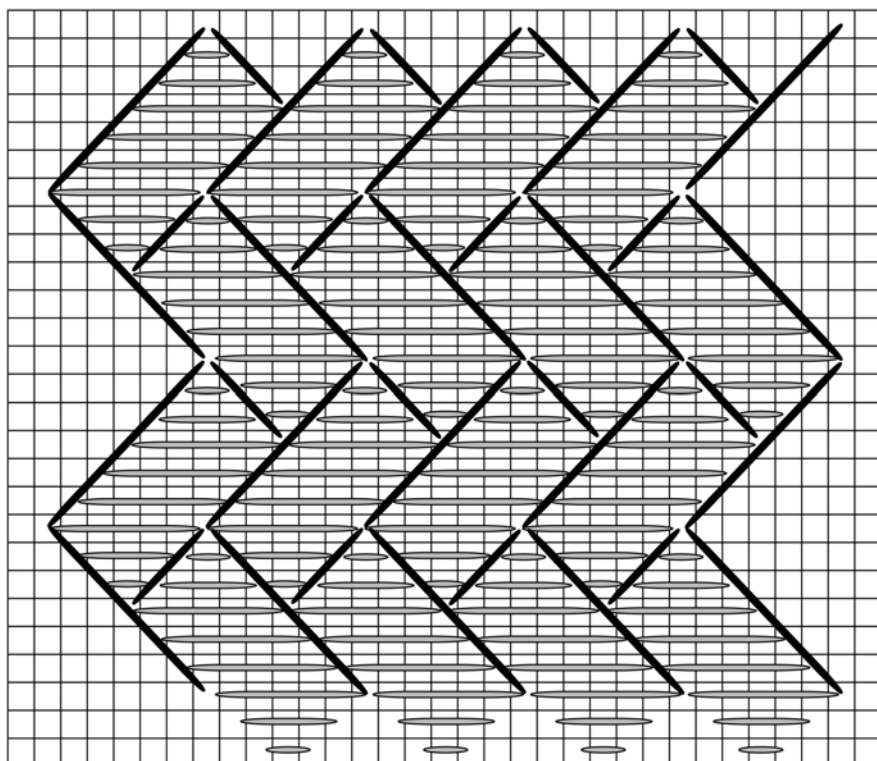
**VERTICAL
BRICKED CASHMERE (2 X 4)**



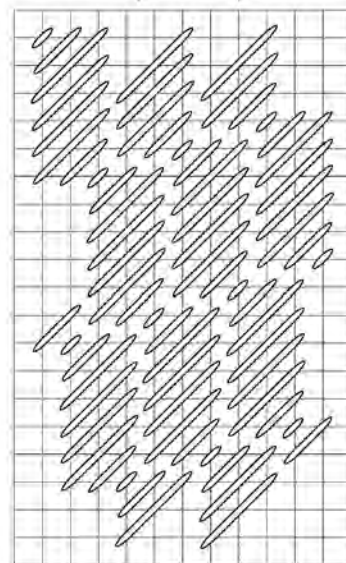
HOW'D YOU DO THAT

BRICK AND MORTAR

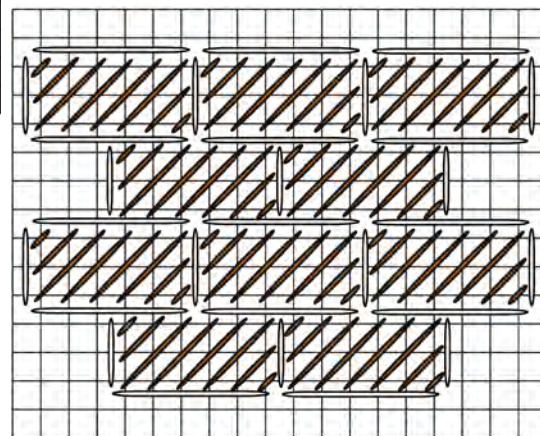
FRAMED BRICKED CASHMERE



DIAGONAL CASHMERE
(CONDENSED)



FRAMED BRICKED CASHMERE (6 X 3)



Once you discover the versatility of Cashmere, explore assorted threads for brick and mortar.

Matte Brick & Mortar = Burmilana or Rainbow Persian

Rough Brick & Mortar = Wildflowers, Rainbow Linen, or Boucle' (on 14 mesh and larger)

Multi-colored Brick = Lorieket, Weeks Dye Works (floss, wool or Perle), ThreadworX (floss, wool or Perle), The Gentle Art (floss, wool)

Shiny Tile = Stranded silk, filament silk, RibbonFloss, Neon Rays, or Flair

Multiple colors in brick and mortar can add some realism to the design, but use a light touch of it. If you use over-dyed threads, select those that have subtle colors changes or use a strand or two of over-dyed color mixed together with a strand or two of solid color threaded into the same needle to give a common color to all stitches even as the over-dyed colors change. Another great look is to blend two solid colors together in the needle for mortar. Mix a light to medium taupe with a light to medium gray for a beautiful neutral color for your mortar. Make sure that the intensity (light to dark) of color in both threads are the same. If one color is more intense than the other it will jump out making the design area spotted or streaked instead of blending the colors.

2020 CLASS PICK YOUR POISON

JUNE 11-13, 2020

Amy will create a custom stitch guide for each of these nine canvases and will pull all the threads, beads, and found objects needed to finish each one. These classes are slightly larger at 12 to 14 students and you must choose at least one of the canvases being offered for the class.

This class is right around the corner in canvas-ordering time. If you would like to join us in June, please select your canvas by March 1.



Class Fee: \$450⁰⁰ per person
\$100⁰⁰ non-refundable desposit
due at sign up
Lunches and beverages will be included each day.

CANVAS CHOICES:

- Catching a Ride** \$198⁰⁰
by Zecca, 18m, 6" x 24"
- Nice Snack** \$198⁰⁰
by Zecca, 18m, 24" x 6"
- Savile Skull** \$187⁰⁰
by Once in a Blue Moon, 18m, 9" x 16"
- Nativity** \$275⁰⁰
by Tapestry Fair, 18m, 19.5" x 5"
- Thanksgiving Finials** (can choose one or more) \$TBD
by Raymond Crawford, 18m, 8" tall, 10" tall, and 12" tall
- Haven** \$TBD
by Mary E. Charles (Painted Pony), 18m, 14" x 14"
- Save the Bees Truck** \$211⁵⁰
by Melissa Shirley, 18m, 10" x 10.5"



Stitch Guides: TBA
Thread Kits: TBA

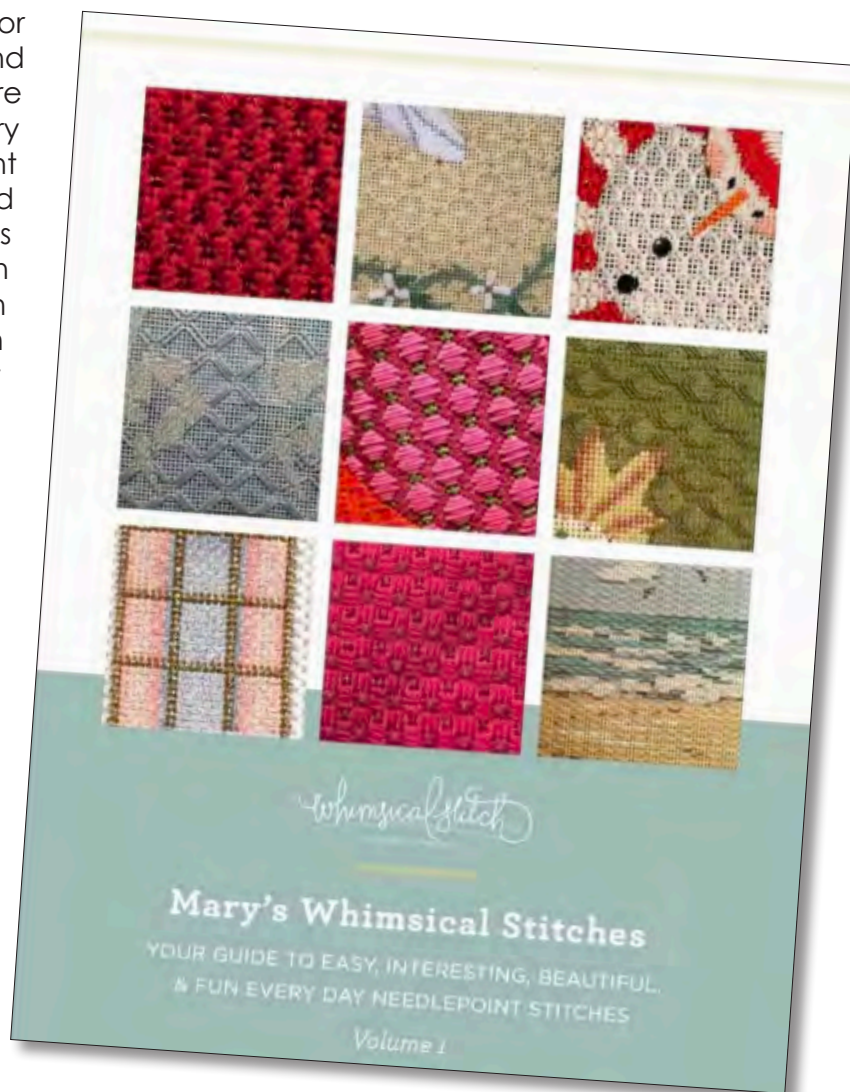


BOOK REVIEW

MARY'S WHIMSICAL STITCHES, VOL. I

BY MARY LEGALLET

This book is a beauty with full color reinforced cover, sturdy spiral-bound 8.5" x 5" format. The stitch diagrams are large with numbered pathways. Mary has used 3-color printing so different colors or textures can be suggested easily on some stitches. The focus of this book is on easy, interesting, and fun stitches for all levels. There are design use suggestions to help you plan your personal stitch guides. The eight chapters are divided by direction (balanced, diagonal, oblique and straight) or type (essential, border, layered, and small). This description sounds similar to other books on the market but the extraspecial additions to this book step up the game. Some pages have a URL address that will take you to photographs of the stitches completed. You will find tips sprinkled on loads of pages for suggested changes to the stitch or explanations. The "icing on the cake" are the INDEXES!!! The first index in the back clearly guides you to each stitch, listed within chapter groups and then by name and page number but the second index (all 12 glorious pages of it) lists each stitch by name alphabetically with chapter and page AND USE SUGGESTIONS.



Some of my personal favorites found in this book: page 49 Bubble Stitch Variation, page 154 Tramme with Wings, page 173 Tuxedo Stitch (I would love to know the story behind the name), page 195 Cushion Stitch (with a lovely oblique direction), page 204 Pattern Beading (fun, fun, fun), page 221 Tiny Offset Diamonds, and pages 250/251 Filled Rectangles. I can't wait to use some of those for sure.

8.5" x 5" spiral bound, reinforced covers, 287 pages

COST: 69⁰⁰

NEEDLEPOINT TREES

KIDS' AND FAMILY COLLECTIONS

Family gift ornaments are a great idea, but sometimes a politically correct way of doing it is needed. One of our customers has been making ornaments for her grandchildren each year but noticed they are not showing up in the daughter-in-law's home decorations each year. As we all know, needlepoint is not inexpensive in time or money. Not only are the needlepointer's feelings hurt, but she is starting to get a bit mad. I get it, but I can also guess what it feels like from the other side. The daughter-in-law may have a certain theme for her decorating or needlepoint/handmade ornaments may not be her "thing." I think I may have a good solution.

I am going to use Christmas as an example, but this idea can work for any holiday, sport, hobby or collection for your children or grandchildren. Making an ornament each year for a special someone is a fabulous custom to start and can become a very meaningful journey to share with that person. Decorating is a personal thing and shouldn't be forced on anyone. My suggestion is to start a mini tree in your own home for your grandchildren. Select and stitch the ornament with special meaning for that individual. You may consider finishing the ornament with a little dated tag or embroidery on the back of the finishing with initials and the date. Gift wrap the ornament to be opened when that child visits you. It doesn't have to be at Christmas, maybe even at Thanksgiving or birthday. Set up a small tree in the bedroom where that child stays in your own home. Once the gift is unwrapped you can hang it together on "Mary's Tree" or "Andrew's Tree" to be added to the previous ornaments. Years down the road when Mary & Andrew set up their own homes, you might consider giving them their personal tree filled with meaningful ornaments, or continue the custom at your own home or maybe start new trees for their children.

NEW CLUBS

RED/WHITE CHRISTMAS SINGLES CLUB

Do you have any holiday trips coming up? Attending sports events and need a little project for the calm moments? Carpool lines boring you to death? What you need is a Singles Club. These small projects are designed to be worked either with single strands or with clever tricks to allow multiple strands without the need of a laying tool perfect for plane and car travel without a big tool pouch to carry along. Sign up on our website with a \$100 deposit or call the shop.



Triangle Tree - \$99.75

(canvas, guide, threads)

Nordic Round - \$87.00

(canvas, guide, threads)

Poinsettia Star - \$83.25

(canvas, guide, threads)



PATRIOTIC CAKE CLUB

Cindy McKown has done it again. We are all huge fans of her wonderful Pinecone Ornaments, but now this cake "TAKES THE CAKE!" There are loads of 3-D effects of berries, blue ribbons, and beads and Cindy will walk you through how to do them with her 3-part Patriotic Cake Club instructions. All beads, threads, ribbon, and special needs items will be included. Join us in creating the perfect decoration for Veteran's Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July, President's Day, and Just For Fun Day.

Sign up on our website with a \$100 deposit or call the shop.

Canvas \$ TBD
Guides & Threads TBD

Start Date is March 2020.

#1 March 2020

#2 April 2020

#3 May 2020



2020 NEEDLEPOINT MOSAICS

HALLOWEEN BIRDHOUSE

BY KELLY CLARK



As soon as I finish with my fun beads and attach the shutters on my "Houseplants" Home Study, I will be off and running with our next Needlepoint Mosaic. We showed a sneak peek of this canvas on page 15 of our December/January newsletter. If you missed it, be sure to visit our Newsletter page on our Website to take a look at what is coming, as well as what is ready now.

Old Glory



Scalloped Pine



Asian in Greens



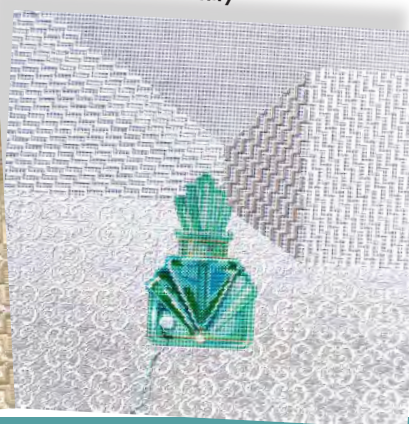
Turtle Bay



Cardinal



Aqua Perfume Vanity



FINISHING IDEAS

At the Dallas Market we asked the team from 3 Kittens needle arts to take my stitched Needlepoint Mosaic of their Scalloped Pine canvas home to finish. I did not give them any preconceived ideas or suggestions and I am so glad that I didn't open my big fat yap because they created magic with my piece of needlepoint. Here it is, finished with the perfect hardware and fabric as a wall hanging to enjoy forever. I wish that you could see it in person to appreciate the colors and textures. If you want your Scalloped Pines Mosaic finished this way or other spectacular finishing send it to...

3 Kittens needle arts
750 Main St, Ste 112
Mendota Heights, MN 55118
(651) 457-4969

Always call before mailing so someone can be aware your treasure is in transit and give you mailing guidelines.



TONY'S TEMPTATIONS

TONY MINIERI CANVAS EMBELLISHMENT CLASSES

Join us this Autumn for another incredible 3-day canvas embellishment class with Tony Minieri. He will work his magic on a group of canvases from which you can pick one or more for your classroom pleasure.

We are being mysterious about the canvases for a good reason. Each of the canvases Tony will be writing a guide for will be selected from the fabulous new canvases introduced in Orlando, FL at the Spring Needlepoint Market, held March 21 - 23, 2020. We will post the final lineup on our Website as soon as possible for your class selection. We will notify you on Facebook once the canvases are on the Website for selection.

There are two sessions from which to choose.

First session is Thursday thru Saturday October 15 - 17, 2020

Second session is Monday thru Wednesday October 19 - 21, 2020

The teaching fee for one 3-day class is \$450.00 with a \$100.00 non-refundable deposit due at sign-up. Lunches and beverages will be provided for each day of class.

NEW GUIDES AVAILABLE

BY AMY BUNGER



White Clover
by Cindy Lindgren
from 3K Designs
18m
11" x 11"

Canvas	\$143 ⁰⁰
Stitch Guide	\$ 70 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$ 65 ⁷⁵



CHINESE NEW YEAR'S GAME

CHILI PEPPERS

Red and green: Good Feng Shui color combination believed to be good luck and attract good fortune. Chili Peppers have many seeds, symbolizing "abundant amounts" or "plentiful" of whatever you wish for. When strung up, they look like firecrackers--which are believed to chase away evil spirits and welcome the good and new.

If you can find our hidden chili pepper in this newsletter, the first two to contact us will win one of these chili pepper fobs.



Catching a Ride
by Zecca
18m
6" x 24"

Canvas	\$198 ⁵⁰
Stitch Guide	\$140 ⁰⁰
Thread Kit	\$258 ⁶⁵



NEW GUIDES AVAILABLE

BY AMY BUNGER



Welcome Home

by Julie Mar
18m
14" x 18"

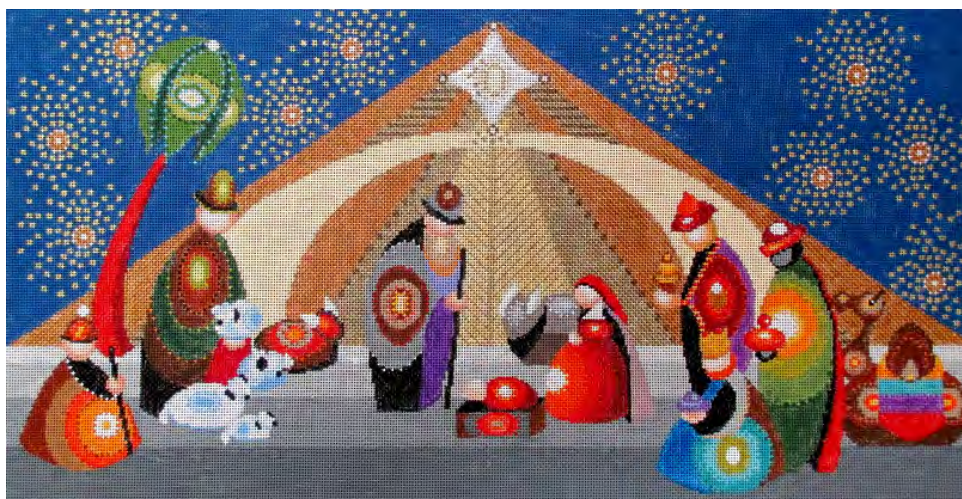
Canvas \$189⁵⁰
Stitch Guide \$105⁰⁰
Thread Kit \$126²⁵

Friends at a Distance

by Ken Swinson
from The Meredith Collection

18m
10" x 16"

Canvas \$275⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$140⁰⁰
Thread Kit \$136⁷⁵



Nativity

by Dominic Borbeau
from Tapestry Fair
18m
19.5" x 5"

Canvas \$275⁰⁰
Stitch Guide \$262⁵⁰
Thread Kit \$412⁷⁵

CUSTOMER GALLERY



Paris Round
by Abigail Cecile
stitched by Suzanne Allen
self-finished as a custom box



Oriental Round
by Mindy
stitched by Suzanne Allen
self-finished in Lee luggage tag



Scary Books
by Melissa Shirley
stitched by Kathy Clark
stitch guide by Amy Bunger

CUSTOMER GALLERY



Masked Giraffe

by Tapestry Fair

stitched by Stephanie Cheney

stitch guide by Tony Minieri, with changes by Stephanie

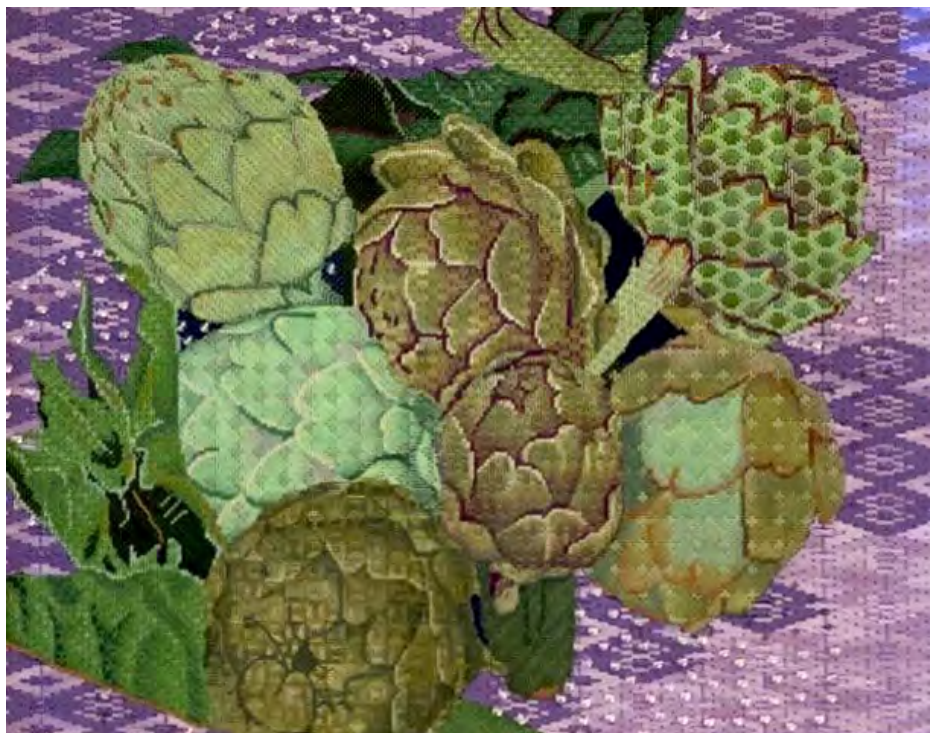


Vase with Red Flowers

by Melissa Shirley

stitched by Patricia Wakefield

stitch guide by M'bellishment



Artichokes

by Laura Taylor

from Love You More

stitched by Jeanne Kunzman

stitch guide by Amy Bunger

CUSTOMER GALLERY



Holy Family & 3 Wise Men
by Damarj
stitched by Linda Murphey
stitch guide by Amy Bunger



Snowy Cottage
by Sally Swannell
from Painted Pony Designs
stitched by Jeanne Kunzman
stitch guide by Amy Bunger



Aqua Santa Stocking
by Melissa Shirley
stitched by Jeanne Kunzman
stitch guide by Amy Bunger