Zooming a Lecture/Trunk Show

Elizabeth Eastmond, from OPQuilt.com

In this day of Covid-19 and because of an attempt to keep ourselves healthy during this pandemic, many guilds have moved to using online tools to provide content for their members, from weekly informal meetings, to ramping up their blog posting, to formalized monthly guild events. Zoom is one such tool.

As a speaker, I will come prepared to an evening Zoom session with a 40 minute slide show format, showing my quilts in the lecture titled: *An Abecedary of Quilts*. I use the Chat function to interact with the audience, and have lively stories that will incorporate audience response. While the tendency of Zoom audiences is to slide into spectator mode, I strive for a presentation that brings creativity to the forefront. As in any new technology, we must accept its limitations, yet step into this new world in order to provide for our needs as quilters.

Zooming a Workshop

It's a bit different from a regular workshop, in that we don't hang out on the computer for hours and hours. Instead we have shorter times Zooming, and meet several times during the workshop time. This can be varied to meet the needs of the Guild, but here is a typical virtual workshop:

9-10 [Zoom] We meet together, learn names, socialize while we talk about the patterns, the fabrics and supplies that everyone has brought.   This is also a time to troubleshoot connections, make sure that we can see each other.

10-11 [Zoom] While this will obviously overlap with the first hour, I'll provide tips and tricks for the pattern, show some easy ways to get started, ways to keep track of what you are doing, and various techniques to assemble the project.

11-1 [Break] During the break, people can sew, take a bio-break, have lunch, etc. I will be checking my emails, so I will be available if people have a query.

1-2:30 [Zoom] When we return, we check on progress by people showing what they've sewn. At this time, I'll demo any late-stage construction. This is also the wrap-up for the day, and the chance for last questions online.

One Week Later, 10-11 a.m. [Zoom] At an agreed upon time, we all Zoom again to show off our projects, and to share our experiences. I can also answer any questions about how to quilt the project, showing different ideas for different effects.

Zooming and the Contract

Most contracts may be modified through the use of an Addendum.

Some wording to be included are details of payments, purchase of patterns, and restricted use. Here is some specific language that might be included:

- Guild will host Zoom Evening Meeting, and send out link to speaker one week before meeting. Attendance at Guild Meeting is limited to Guild Members and (a small number of) invited guests. Zoom Codes should not be shared online and meeting/workshop should not be recorded. Screenshots and photos are allowed.

- NOTE: PayPal and/or check is accepted for payment, however PayPal is preferred. Send to opquilt@gmail.com.

- Class attendance is limited to 1-2 moderators, and **paid attendees only**, up to 35. Please send number of students and Zoom Meeting Codes for both the main session of the workshop (and the follow-up session a week later) at least one week in advance.

Other Zooming Issues

I am willing to allow the Guild to have more students in the class than normal. A typical class is capped at 20 students, but I feel we could easily accommodate up to 30 to 35, if needed. Yes, it will feel a bit wild in certain parts, but it will assist the guild in bringing in revenue and keeping their members connected. Having the second session one week later, and access to the instructor via email throughout that interim week, will help smooth out any bumps with a larger class.

I sell my patterns online only. Students will be expected to access PayHip and pay for their own pattern. Each student should have their own (downloaded) copy. One sticking point has been the need for PayPal as a payment vehicle, as some have not yet acclimated to this form of banking payment. There is an option to pay by credit card on PayHip, but then it will set up a PayPal account for the purchaser. I suggest the Guild work with their members to assist them.

I look forward to getting together!

Elizabeth Eastmond

web: www.opquilt.com
email: opquilt@gmail.com
Patterns: payhip.com/opquilt