



October/November, 2009 Freebie Focus Challenge

Below you will find the wonderful entries in our Freebie Focus Challenge Contest on our BFC Yahoo Group. (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BFC-Creations/>)

A photo for each of the 18 Entries is below. The words of the entrants are included with each photo giving a brief description of how they made their block, and in some how they plan to use their creation, or have used it already.

The entrant names are now revealed! The result of the contest voting is indicated next to the winner's name.

Additional photos of the entries are in the BFC Yahoo Group Photo Section -- Freebie Focus Contest folder. (<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BFC-Creations/photos/album/0/list>)

If a finished project photo was included – we have also added that photo now.

The following prizes in Club 100 Credits were awarded to the BFC-Creations Freebie Focus Challenge Contest winners. Club 100 Credits can be used to purchase BFC designs.

PRIZES: Freebie Focus Challenge Contest:

\$50 in Club 100 Credits will be awarded to the top entrant in each of the following categories:

Best in Show - your overall favorite	Entry 16
Most Original	Entry 11
Most Creative	Entry 10
Most Fun	Entry 8
Most Expressive of a Theme -- (Love, Patriotism, etc.)	Entry 4

Congratulations to the entrants and thank you to all who participated in the voting process. Everyone said they had a very hard time making a choice and I can see why!

Thank you everyone for entering the Freebie Focus Challenge Contest and giving us so much inspiration! I hope you will join us for the continuing Winter / Christmas Contest – closing on January 15, 2010. Additional Contests for 2010 will soon be announced!



The block was embroidered with the duck head FBFC-659 - Ducks
 I added "grass" from the tiger designs FBFC-654 – Tiger. I actually thought they looked like feathers - they were merged twice to give a border to the duck. I stippled using a very small, tight stippling. Plain cotton fabrics in greens and blacks were used with a marbled sashing. I used some decorative stitches that are built into my Bernina along some of the seams.

To add a little interest I hand sewed some glass beads - just sprinkled them to give a scattered look.

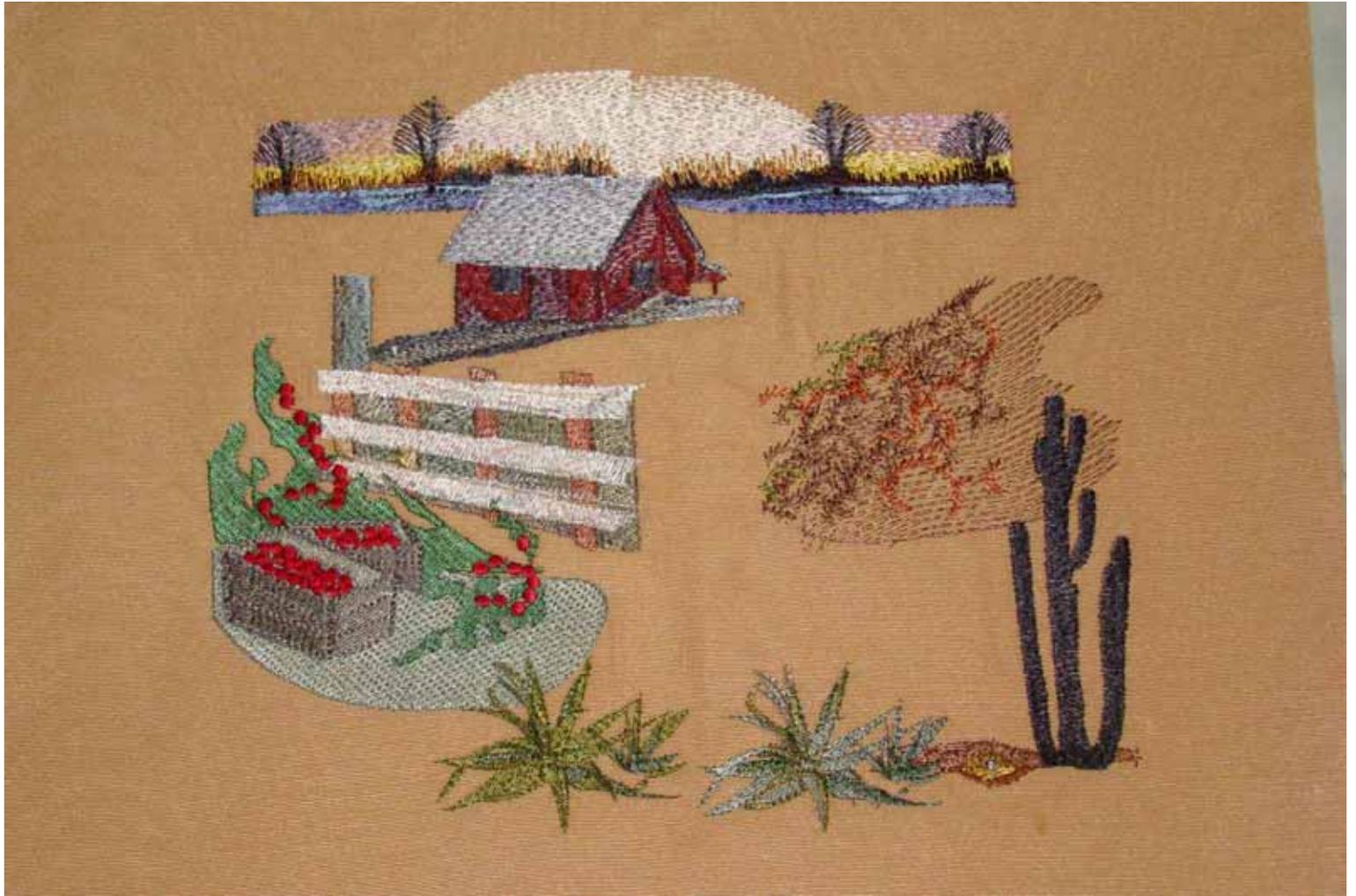
Think I'll frame this instead of doing a complete quilt

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- FBFC 810 Winter Sunset (2)
- FBFC 531 Winter Medley
- FBFC 565 Autum
- BFBFC 171 Desert Vista Revisited (2)
- FBFC 454 Sunset
- FBFC 569 Orchids & Hummingbirds
- FBFC 488 Veggie Pack

I added these designs on the Customizer 1100 and sewed them on the Janome 300e using the Giga hoop.

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BFC Freebee #741 – Peacock Head

The design block was digitized with Digitizer Pro, .jef format.

Stippling was added around the design and on the back of the bag.

Swarovski crystals surround the design. Bag has zipper inserted on top and cording was added. Also strips of fabric were braided to create the bag strap and a fabric bow was added on each side of the strap.



I used 32 freebies from 16 different sets for this. Some designs were used more than once, I did most of this in my software by cutting, flipping, rotating, resizing & then combining designs. I stitched it on cotton fabric, using 2 layers of tear away stabilizer & 505 spray to help hold it in place & multiple hoopings.

Design Sets Used

- 449 - Touch of India III
- 805 - FSL and Regular Floral Ornaments
- 246 - Free Standing Scenic Bowl & Doily - In the Park
- 269 - Hummingbirds with Fuchsias
- 497 - Seed Packets - Herbs
- 464 - Window - Lady with Lilacs
- 728 - QIH Clematis Trellis Handbag
- 684 - Hummingbird Fantasy Garden
- 443 - Blue Jays
- 161 - Desert Vistas
- 881 - Girl in a Rose Garden
- 171 - Desert Vista Revisited
- 318 - Freestanding Lace Bowl & Doily - Wisteria
- 411 - Japanese Gardens
- 699 - Ohisa - Honorable Geisha
- 111 - Butterflies on the free design page



This was done from the butterflies and FBFC594 . I did it on linen with just a light weight tear away and sewed great.. These are not colors I use much but love the look of them. Would make a wonder pocket for a tote..



This was stitched on a 12" square of beige satin. Used a cutaway stabilizer, which was a mistake since I can still see the edges of the stabilizer from the front. I put a piece of batting behind it to soften the background and that helped quite a bit with hiding the stabilizer. I used your designs FBFC111M and 116M. The first photo is of the unframed piece, the other shows it with a black mat around it bringing it down to 8x10. I think I may have it framed with a slightly larger opening rather than crowding the design.

This type of work is all so new to me! Up until now I've used the embroidery machine to embellish clothing, blankets, tote bags, etc. Nothing like this where I combined designs, put it together like the Christmas one, or framed it like this one. I seriously need to retire so that I have more time to play!

Entry 7 Lorraine Morrow



This will be a reversible cushion with a border and ruffle. Design panel each side.

The scene in the middle of side 2 has been enlarged. The fabric is cotton done on tearaway as I didn't hoop the fabric.

Block left to right

FBFC 510 Elizabethan Ladies in Hats

FBFC 391 For the Library

FBFC 493 Women's Ads of the 20's and 30's

FBFC 380 Art Deco Ladies

FBFC 761 The Eyes Have It

FBFC 205 Oh! Those Fifties Ladies

FBFC 295 Ladies – Captured Moments

FBFC 414 Old West

FBFC 388 Art Deco Fashions

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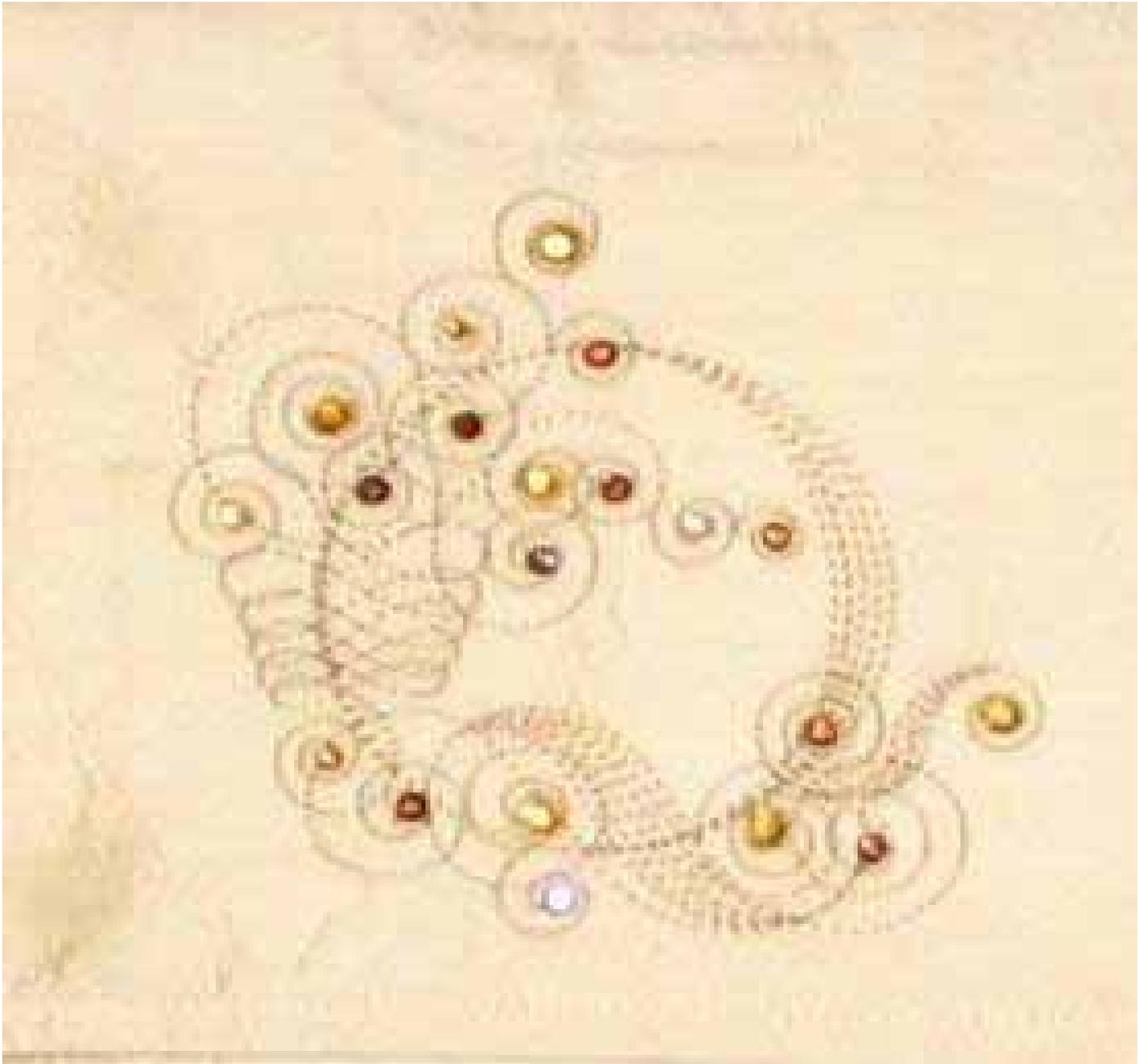
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My underwater block contains free samples from BFC265 Tropical Palms, BFC306 Fashion Jewelry, BFC297 An Oriental View, BFC298 Fantastical Fish, BFC842 Convertible Handbag-Coral Reef, BFC712 Large Blue Heron and BFC869 Art Quilt-Undersea Fantasy. I hooped the cotton fabric with one layer of medium tear away and floated 3 layers of tear away under the hoop. The design is fairly dense with over 64,000 stitches. I combined the designs after using resize for the fish and some editing on the plant life with 4D Pro. It was stitched on my Husquvarna Diamond.

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I created a small shoulder strap bag for my step-granddaughter for Christmas using the free FBFC1125 design as the focus. I added beaded trim from Sylvia's fabulous trims and silk. I added bling from Tammies Hot Fixit stones...this was truly a BFC groupies bag and so much fun.

I added fusible stabilizer to both the outer bag and lining...it was kinda stiff to turn. I'll use a more flexible stabilizer next time on just the outer bag.

I reinforced the trim strap with 1/2" gross grain ribbon for support.

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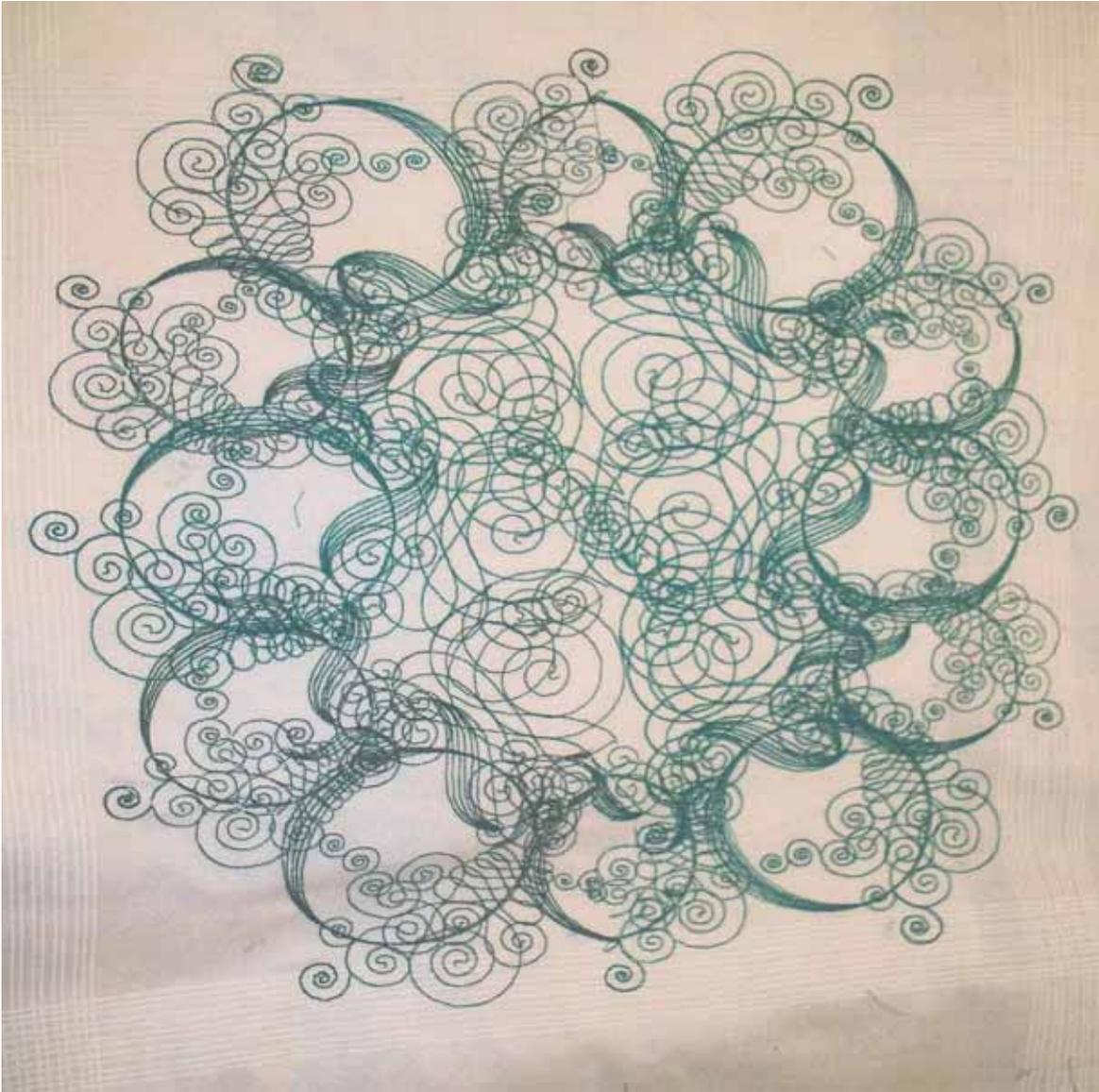


I used FBFC803 from the Floral Bling Spray collection. I copied and rotated and mirrored it for the center of the block. I took FBFC655 from the South African Gray Crowned Crane with Flowers and removed the green and the bud and stitched it in the very center. I then took the original design and stitched it in each of the four corners.

I used FBFC 301 from the Lace Bowl Doily Water Color Roses and stitched this design out in each of the half way marks on the sides between the daisies.

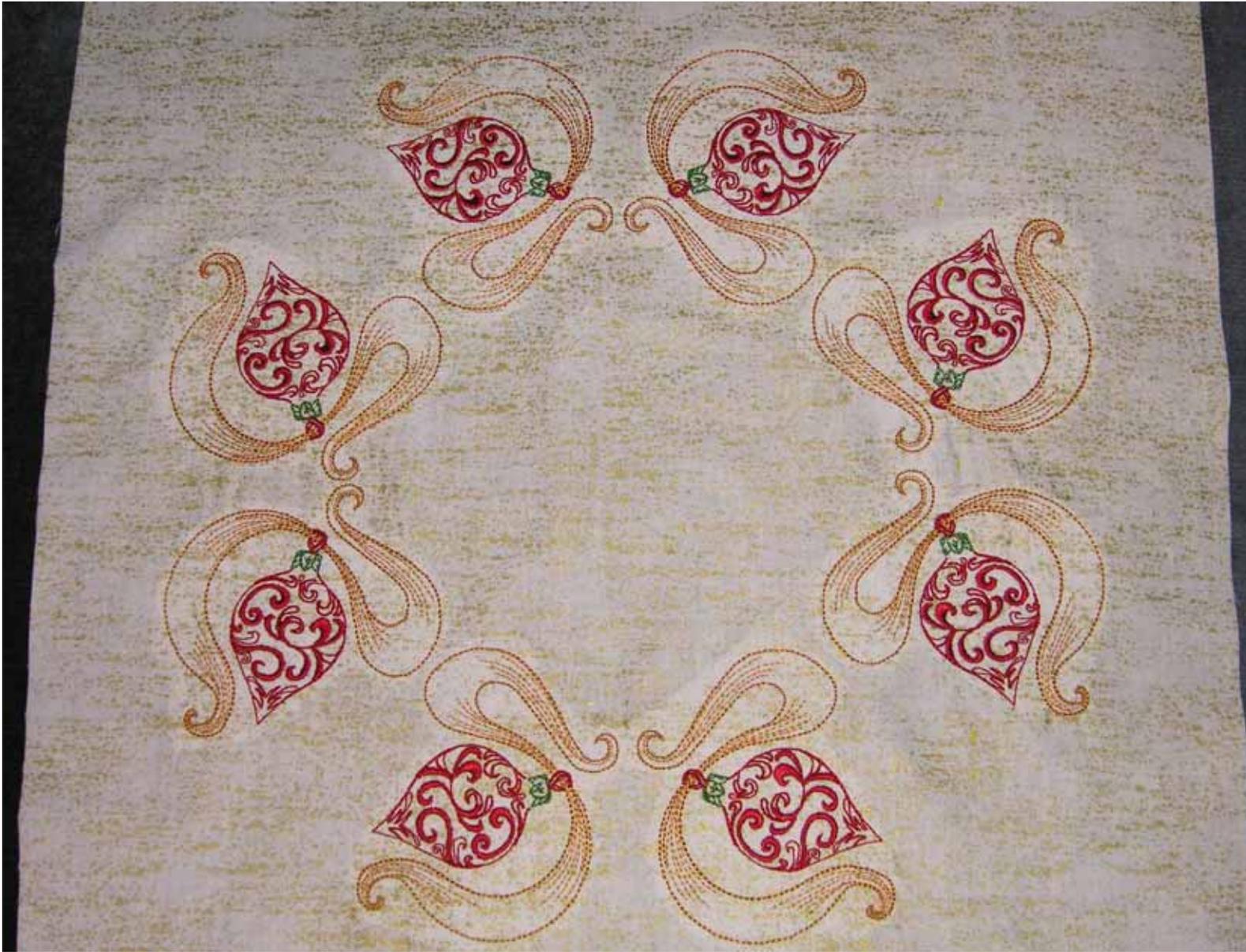
I took the FBFC111L and FBFC111S from the freebie page and removed the butterflies from the rest of the design and added them to the center part of the block at each of the midpoints of the design made from the FBFC803 design.

I ironed a firm knit on the back of the quilt block before starting the stitching and a tear away while doing the stitching. If I were to change anything, I would have used a cutaway instead of a tear away while stitching out the designs



I have the Viking 4D software. I used customizing to create this design that I sewed out on the Viking Diamond using the majestic hoop. I bought in the free design FBFC 113s then I used the encore feature of the software that takes 1 design and makes multiples of that design how ever you tell it to. I used copies of 6 and brought it in to fit that hoop. Then I brought in design FBFC113m. I followed the same procedure with that design and rotated it until it fit in with the first design. I combined them and saved it.

A friend came by as it was finishing and she wants it embroidered on fabric for pillows. The design measures 13" X 14".



BFC 912 used. Design was rotated, and also reversed. Both were saved. Using a 4x4 hoop this was hooped 8 times. I like the frame created inside. Stabilizer was a medium tear away.



I made a fish tank with a window border out of fabric. The pattern is from <http://www.quilterscache.com/QuiltBlocksGalore12.html>. I also found fabric with a cat panel on it and cut it out and fused it to the window.

Designs used:

FBFC283 - I used this design different ways, I changed the size and color of the fish and used them a couple of times without the grass.

FBFC297 - This fish I placed so he was swimming to the top of the tank.

FBFC298 - I sewed out the first color of this fish and then moved him down a little and sewed out the whole design so that it looks like a reflection of the fish from the back of the tank.

FBFC390 - I used just the water part of this design at the top of the tank to look like the water is moving.

FBFC793 - I placed this design in front of the fish to look like he is blowing bubbles.

FBFC842

FBFC867

FBFC869

I used a lightweight tear away for stabilizer. To embellish, I glued decorative sand to the bottom of the tank with a couple of seashells. I also put crystals in all the fish eyes.



I have used FBFC385 Holly & White Rose Bowl and FBFC747 Lady & Jaguar. To it I have added a few rhinestones on the roses and to the eyes and mouth of the face. It will either be a tote bag or pillow. I haven't made up my mind yet. I hope you like it.



I am thinking of making a purse with my square. The original design from BFC file is FBFC873. I wanted a full bird and liked this peacock for some reason better than your nice new one. So what I did was take the feathers you had just on the left side and duplicate and flip them. I think it came out pretty nice. I came up with some other cool combinations, but I did not stitch them out this time because there is a one entry limit which is fine. Thank you.



I am entering the Freebie contest using your Free Lilac from FBFC 258. I took the free Lilac spray into Embird and removed the leaves and played with it till I got the circle and added leaves. I then stitched it out and with no exact measurements I started adding a border. and then the 4 sprays in the corners. I changed the two purples around when stitching out the alternate sprays this came to about 13 " and I was planning to put another small border on it to make 15" and then add more later.

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This is my first contest and I was truly excited to come up with something from all your wonderful freebies. I chose to use BFC105 -- Fantasy Lady and a border-type design from BFC919 Swirly Bling collection. I have named my entry "A Woman and her portion". I used some batik cotton with gold swirls in it and colors that complement the lady's outfit. I created a frame around the lady and I am thinking of framing it for a friend or making a small wall hanging. She was embroidered on a Brother Innovis 2500D and I used 2 layers of tear-away stabilizer.

I really had a great time sewing this out and to be truthful, this is my very first sew out from your many designs. True I have purchased many and mainly because I am building my embroidery library now.

Thanks for wonderful designs and more will be coming.



Our Granbury Quilt Guild members create & donate 16 to 18 inch square 'quilt blankets' to one our of area Premature Babies Intensive Care Units...The unit uses these blankets for a premature baby which is often the size of your hand or smaller. I decided to use the free 'Bear Free Standing Lace ornament' to create one of these donation blankets.

Instead of making these cute bears into ornaments, using my embroidery software, I combined 3 of them into a block omitting the round hanger when I got to that color change. I also decided to change the neck scarf color by stopping my machine with each bear & changing the color (I probably could've done this in my software but using the 'encore' feature in my software, I didn't know how to do thisbut it was no problem just stopping the machine & changing the color!!)

Combined with some bear fabric, these embroidered bears added the real 'pop' to this little blanket which I will donate at our Dec. meeting.