

Butterfly Canvas Panel

BY: Mou Saha

Learn how to create a mixed media canvas panel in layers using papers, paints and stamps that you can design yourself using the ScanNCut.

MATERIALS:

- Brother Scan N Cut 2
- 9" x 12" Canvas Panel by Artist's Loft
- Faber-Castell Design Memory Craft Gelatos® Colors: Banana, Black Licorice, Blueberry, Cotton Candy, Green Tea, Guava, Lemon, Margarita Mix, Metallic Mint, Metallic Melon, Red Cherry, Watermelon
- Faber-Castell Design Memory Craft Gesso
- Faber-Castell Design Memory Craft Gel Medium
- Faber-Castell Design Memory Craft PITT Artist Pen Black B point
- ½" Flat Paint Brush
- #4 Round Paint Brush
- ColorBox Pigment Ink pad Dragonfly Black
- Polymer sheet for stamp
- White cardstock
- Coats & Clark White Thread
- Brother Sewing machine
- Scrap papers - old book pages, junk mail, magazine/catalog pages, scrap papers, etc.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- Gather some scrap papers – old book pages, junk mail, magazine/catalog pages, scrap papers, etc. Tear them into blocks and strips.
- Use gel medium to attach these scrap papers to a 9" x 12" canvas panel.
- When dry, seal the layer with a thin coat of gel medium to make sure the papers don't lift or peel off. Let dry thoroughly or speed up the drying process with a heat tool.
- Color the page with Gelatos® colors. You can also use your favorite coloring medium. But no matter what kind of coloring medium you choose, be sure to keep certain colors away from each other – such as blue and orange, red and green, purple and yellow – as these are complimentary colors, that is, they are opposite from each other on a color wheel and when mixed they will make browns, blacks and greys. We don't want that with this project.
- Blend the Gelatos® colors with Gesso. Apply your gesso lightly or dilute it with a little water during blending so some of the book texts or other designs from the scrap papers peek through at places. Let dry completely.
- Rub some Black Licorice Gelatos® color around the edges of the canvas panel and also down about the middle and blend with water. This helps ground all the lighter colors together and also creates a place to add the focal point elements later.

- Rub some other Gelatos® colors near the top of the panel, add water with paint brush, hold the panel up and let the wet color drip down. Repeat with another color. Not only is this technique a lot of fun, but it also creates a transparent flowy layer of colors on the canvas. Let dry.
- Take some gesso out with paint brush and apply on various parts of the canvas. Take a texture card or another texture tool or even an expired credit card and just drag that gesso around to create yet another layer. The depth that all these layers add to the canvas look really intriguing when it's all finished.
- Make some marks on the panel with gesso and Black Licorice Gelatos® color using paint brush.
- Now that you have created a paper layer and a few layers of color, you can add some pattern to the canvas. For that, you can cut our own stamp using the Scan N Cut machine.
- I had my stamp cut pretty big, almost 5" x 7" in size. I needed an acrylic block that's big enough. I have used the Stampendous Perfectly Clear Acrylic Stamp Jumbo Handle that measures 5" x 7" x 1/8". You can choose your stamp size.
- Use a black pigment ink for stamping. Stamp the image around the canvas panel. You don't need to stamp the whole image every time. You could let it go over the edge. This makes the pattern more interesting.
- Heat set the ink with heat gun. This will prevent the ink from smearing as you add more layers to you canvas.
- Color around the stamped images to add more interest.
- Seal your canvas with a glaze or gel medium.
- Now it's time to create a focal point for your canvas panel. The focal point can be anything you like. Here I have a drawn, colored and cut out a few butterflies, layered and stitched them together and attached the base layer to the canvas leaving the top layers free to add movement.
- Attach your focal point element to the canvas panel. You write something or cut out a word, phrase or quote below the focal element to finish.

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