

Renowned Machine Quilter Lois Smith Joins the Faculty of The Quilt Fest of New Jersey VI

Story: Mary Claire Moyer

[The Quilt Fest of New Jersey VI](#), to be held March 4-7, 2010 in Somerset, New Jersey, offers a fantastic, panoramic view of the world's take on quilting and textile art. The Tri-State Quilt Competition and special exhibitions provide a colorful vista of fabric and thread. In addition the world-renowned faculty presenting workshops at the show can open the doors to a whole new world of quilting with their innovative designs and techniques.

Included among the instructors is Lois Smith from Rockville, Maryland, a nationally known machine quilting teacher as well as a National Quilting Association certified judge. In addition to teaching throughout the United States, Lois has taught in Africa, Brazil, Canada and Scotland.

Lois is well known for her distinctive sampler quilts, outstanding use and enjoyment of color, subtle textural effects and her attention to detail. One quilt, "Golden Memories of Christmas," was Best of Show at Houston in 1988. It was the first machine quilted work to win that honor. Another one, "Summertime Sampler," is part of the permanent collection of the American Quilters' Museum in Paducah, Kentucky.

While Lois' work often stems from geometric traditional patterns, she strives for a new twist or set in her quilts. Most of her work relates to family experiences, nature and the sea. Her quilts rise from an idea or feeling that grows and matures as her works progress. Lois seldom sketches a piece in detail, but puts more emphasis on collecting a workable color palette of fabrics that will then develop bit by bit. She is often surprised by the outcome! Once pieced or appliquéd, free-motion machine quilting is used to enhance and embellish her quilt's surface.

Lois is the author of *Fun and Fancy: Machine Quiltmaking* and *Lois Smith's Machine Quiltmaking*. A native of Illinois, she graduated from Monmouth College and is married to Donovan Smith. They have 7 children and 10 grandchildren.

Lois will be teaching three full day [workshops](#) at The Quilt Fest of New Jersey. Thursday, March 4 is "The Liberated New York Beauty," Friday, March 5 is "Yes!!! Beautiful Machine Quilting" and Saturday, March 6 is "Studio Art 101."

The Liberated New York Beauty WS #NJ 007



Yes!!! Beautiful Machine Quilting WS #NJ 008



Studio Art 101 WS #NJ 009



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When you go ...

What	<u>The Quilt Fest of New Jersey VI</u>
Where	Garden State Exhibit Center 50 Atrium Dr Just off I-287, Exit #10 Somerset, New Jersey 08873
When	March 4 – 7, 2010 Thurs, Fri, Sat: 10 am – 6pm Sunday: 10 am – 5 pm
How Much	\$12 (includes re-admit). \$10 Sunday Only. Under 16 free.