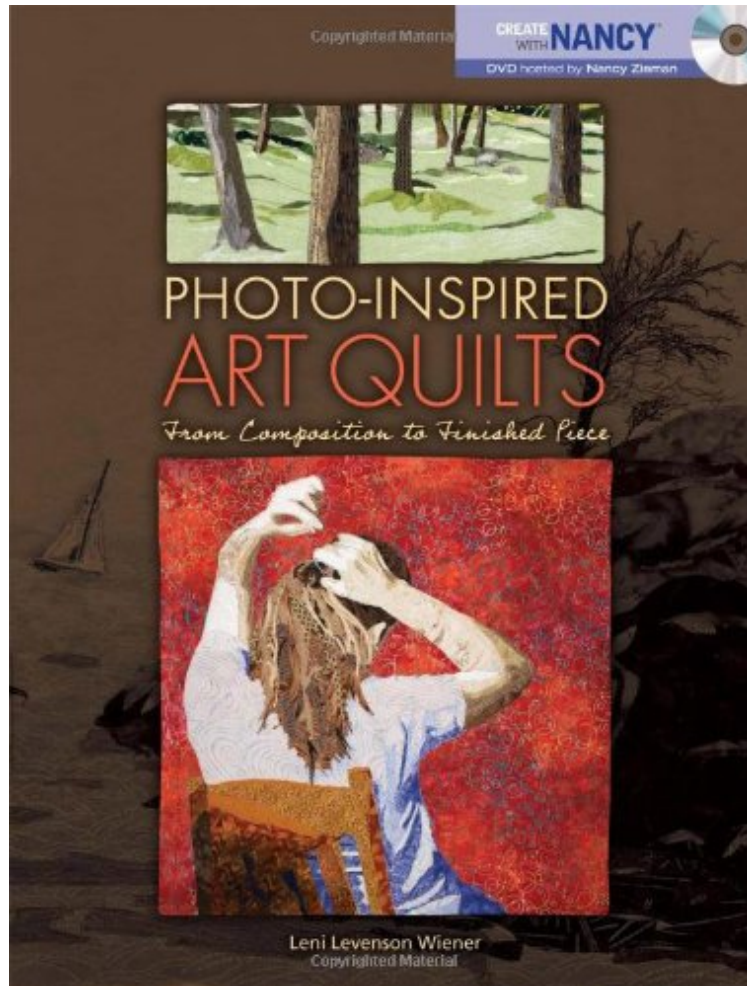


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## Photo-Inspired Art Quilts: From Composition to Finished Piece (Create With Nancy)

*Leni Levenson Wiener, Nancy Zieman*  
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**Leni Levenson Wiener, Nancy Zieman : Photo-Inspired Art Quilts: From Composition to Finished Piece (Create With Nancy)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Photo-Inspired Art Quilts: From Composition to Finished Piece (Create With Nancy):

79 of 80 people found the following review helpful. Honest and focused inspiration By Diana Dunaway I have been looking, searching and buying all sorts of books on the topic of creative "photos-to-art-quilts", this one hits the high "HIGH" mark on inspiration, clear and thorough directions. The author does a great job in walking the reader through the basics of good design, composition, photo selections and getting your ideas actually done! The included companion DVD is fantastic as it was so much better yet to actually see and hear how the author achieved such fantastic results! The demonstrations of thread-painted accents and applique really cleared up some questions I had

while reading the book. A lot of design and planning is done with the use of a computer which is explained in easy to understand details but the author has also offered simple and clear directions for what some might call "low-tech" alternatives. All the steps of making a "photo-inspired" art quilt are covered in very clear writing and step by step photos. I do both traditional quilts and art quilts, if I could give it 6 stars \*\*\*\*\* I would! 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. GREAT book for art quilters of any experience level! By KatyKatMidwest I have loved fabric all my life. My mother sewed, but no one in my family quilted. So, I started out at ground zero so to speak. I am also not in a place which has access to any in-person classes. So, I have been relying on web videos and books to teach some things. Many times, craft books are more of an homage to what the author deems as their awesomeness, but don't really teach you anything at all. This is NOT one of those books! I've already purchased several books on quilting. While they all have some good information, none were teaching things that I really wanted to know, like how to make that frame-effect around an art quilt, or properly attach a binding. They were mostly approached as if the reader already knew all the basics. This reader didn't. Anyway, thought I would try yet another book, to see what sort of info I might be able to get to improve my own skills. Note that I also love books in general, so I want to mention that the book size is nice, it feels nice in your hands, and the pages are printed on decent paper, not cheap junk. The photographs are plentiful, colorful and helpful. (I've had some books use only black and white pictures to perhaps save on ink costs? But it detracts from the book!) On to the information in the book - YAY!! This book doesn't assume I am a quilting goddess who just wanted to purchase another book. (I might get that title some day, but that's a long ways off!) The author writes in a conversational manner, which I appreciate. (I write that way too - anyone who reads my reviews knows that one already! LOL) It makes it more like a class on quilting with the teacher right there. I've been reading it every day since I got it, and it has helped me to want to try a few new techniques. (It also confirms my need for a different sewing machine, which I had already known. Mine is almost new, but you can't drop the feed dogs, and covering doesn't help much on this model. It is more for sewing than quilting.) While everyone's artistic interpretation is always going to differ (that's what makes it art!), the author explains how to achieve certain effects, how to create special additions to your art quilt, and touches on how to "paint" with thread (she has another book devoted solely to thread painting as well). She explains how to use fabric values, rather than color or pattern alone to achieve a visual impact. She also explains about how to do portraits to have the best impact. Shortcomings - there were a couple. I think she could have delved a little deeper into HOW to get the value determinations from your photographs or pictures. She mentions she uses Photoshop and Photoshop Elements to get them herself, but doesn't touch much at all about how to actually do it. Note that this does not bother me - I already know how, and have read about it in other quilting books. Perhaps she feels it was already sufficiently covered, and might be redundant. However, it would have been helpful to cover a little bit more to help someone for whom this might be their only quilting book purchase. I also feel she felt short in her explanations of her own quilting examples when it came to portraiture. She has some really nice photos of her own work which she uses as an example, but she leaves the reader to decide for themselves if she did a strictly value-based fabric collage or printed a photo onto computer fabric and just enhanced with thread. There are references here and there, but there are also some unidentified examples. On page 75, for example, in the quilt at the bottom of the page, I would like to know if the people there were printed directly from a photograph to computer fabric and thread-enhanced, or if she pieced them from fabric and then thread enhanced. Overall - I highly recommend this book! It is enjoyable to read, actually informational, doesn't assume too much, and will help me improve my art quilt skills. Unless you are already an award-winning art quilter, I think everyone would find this one a very useful addition to their personal quilt book library. Great job by the author! 3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. If you have a photo you want to take to the next level... By Dejablu503 If you're looking for a detailed introduction to pictorial quilts, then Photo-Inspired Art Quilts is it! Clear instructions, wonderful pictures and illustrations, a top notch teach yourself instructional book for how you too can turn your favorite photos into professional level art quilts using your computer, fabric and a few simple tools. I am also of the opinion that if you think outside the box like me, with simple modifications these instructions could also be applied to paper collage interpretations of your photos quite easily. This book is in one of my top 10 favorite art book slots in my bookcase because it teaches techniques that help illuminate the fact that not all art is painted or sculpted, that real art is sometimes also made with fabric.

An art quilt is a unique and original work of art done in fabric, layered with batting and backed just like a traditional quilt. Most often, they are made to hang on a wall as decoration. In this book, learn how to identify an appropriate photo for an art quilt, how to translate that photo into a fabric collage, and how to accent and/or embellish it using thread painting, raw-edge machine applique and fabric collage. A bonus DVD hosted by Nancy Zieman compliments the instruction featured in the book.

About the Author Leni Levenson Wiener has been teaching art quilting in the New York area for seven years. She is a member of SAQA and an active member of the quilting community. Her previous book, Thread Painting, was published by Krause Publications in 2007.