



Create Depth with Color Perspective

by Margie Deeb

December 2008

A portion of my art library was given to me by my grandmother who was an accomplished artist. I have all kinds of composition, drawing, art history, color mixing, and color theory books published 30, 40 and 50 years ago. I was reading Ralph Fabri's explanation of color perspective as I was teaching the college students in my Color & Design class about it. Here's what Fabri tells us in his book, one of my all-time favorites, *Color* (1967, Watson-Guptill Publications).

"...the colors, the tonal values, create the illusion of depth. The illusion of space is dear to the hearts of many abstract and nonobjective painters, as well as realistic artists.

The biggest role of color perspective is generally in landscape painting (scenery, seascape, cityscape) because greater distances and spatial problems are encountered in these subjects than in figure painting.

Distance affects all colors. Colors change as much as lines and shapes do, according to distance. Faraway hills and objects are not only smaller than similar objects close to us, they are also bluish. Very bright hues, such as orange and red, seem bright in the distance, too, but

they are invariably lighter and hazier the farther away they are."

These color truths can be applied to figures, portraits, abstracts, and patterns. And they are applicable in any media that color is used, including beads. Background color choices are so important, whether they are plain and solid, or complex and patterned. Whatever its nature, the background must be visually integrated, and not compete with the foreground. It must recede and thrust the foreground toward the viewer.

When you are out, especially away from the city and can see a distance, look for color perspective: watch for hazier, cooler colors the way off hazier, cooler colors. And notice the brilliance and warmth of closer hues. It may take awhile to acclimate your eyes, but keep at it.

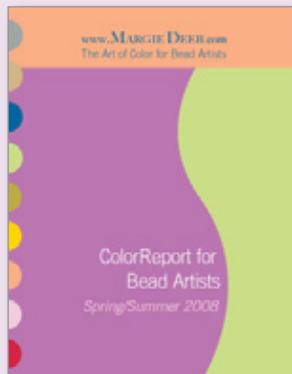
Then apply this to your work with color. Add depth to your color schemes by muting and cooling off your background colors.

For further reading on this topic, read the [April 2006 Margie's Muse: Color and Space](#)

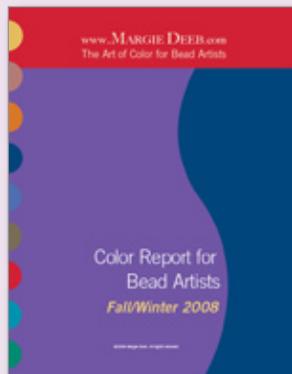


Colors become cooler and more muted as they recede into the distance. Foreground colors are warmer, brighter and more saturated.

How Have You Lived without the Color Report for Bead Artists?



[Download the Spring/Summer 2008 PDF now](#)



[Download the Fall/Winter 2008 PDF now](#)

Each season the *Color Report for Bead Artists* will expand what you can create in any medium - by introducing you to color combinations you've never used or even seen before. These seasonal PDFs contain over 40 palettes, descriptions, photos, gemstone and Delica bead suggestions, and ideas based on Pantone's fashion color report.

One of the most fun aspects of creativity is color: using new colors and harmonies. If you're like me, your beadwork soars when you're challenged and inspired. And it becomes exponentially more fun.

It thrills me to work with colors I've never seen or tried. Watching how the hues interact with each other and how I interact with them gives me such joy. And I want to learn more, go further, reach higher and create more.

Join me in exploring the exciting new colors of each season.

Responses to Margie's *Color Report for Bead Artists*:

"I really like the color report - particularly because there are colors that I probably would not have considered or noticed and this gives new directions to travel. I also REALLY appreciated the listing of the gemstones."
- Kathy L.

"Very helpful. I tend to work in certain palettes over and over again, but seeing a different palette helps me move out of my comfort zone."
- Susan K.

"I appreciated the fact that you mentioned your initial reaction to some of the Pantone colors for this season and yet after exploring them, your reaction to them changed. It reminds me to be open to colors I might not usually consider for jewelry (or wearing)."
- Rosalynn B.

*"I know I will not care for every season's colors but *The Color Report for Bead Artists* still gives me an idea of what to look for when designing for the next season. It is very helpful knowing that what I make will work with what is in the stores for those months."*
- Betty



Master Color One-on-One with Margie

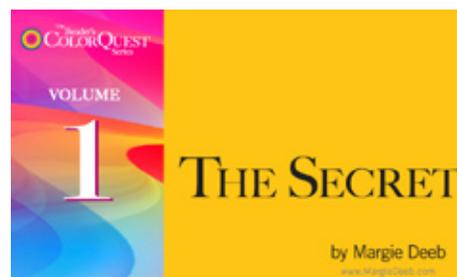
Take your artistry to a higher level. Spend 3 months learning from the master of color one-on-one. Examine your strengths and weaknesses, and get on the path to discovering your true color voice.

In this consultation process you will:

- Discover more of your color voice
- Raise your artistry to a new level
- Have your current work critiqued
- Create new work for critique
- Become an empowered artist

You and your artwork will be forever changed.

[Register now.](#)

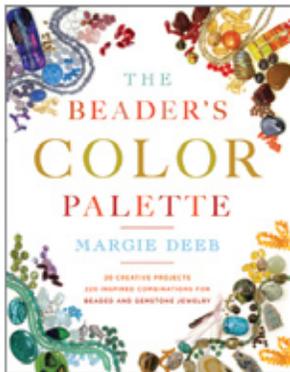


Learn the most critical secret to making dynamic, powerful color combinations. A 33-page PDF for instant purchase and download

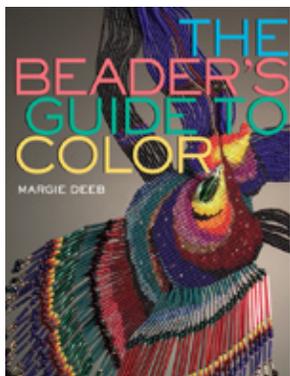
[Click for details...](#)

MARGIEDEEB.COM

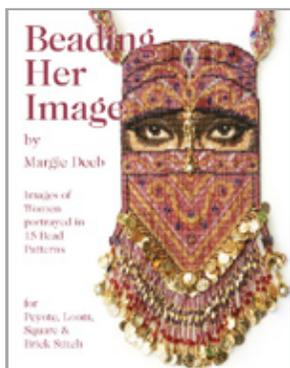
The Art of Color for Bead Artists



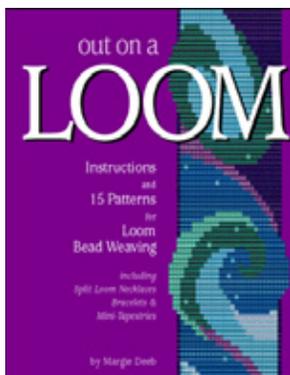
The Beader's Color Palette: 20 Creative Projects and 220 Inspired Combinations for Beaded and Gemstone Jewelry opens the door to worlds of color inspiration. Gather from history, culture, and our planet to create stunning color schemes for beaded creations. Gorgeous beaded jewelry illustrating 220 specific palettes for glass and gemstone beads make *The Beader's Color Palette* a coffee table book of inspiration for color lovers working in every medium. Includes detailed instructions for stringing, finishing, looming, and off-loom stitches. (Paperback, 192 pages)
\$24.95 US Dollars



The only book of its kind written specifically for bead artists, *The Beader's Guide to Color* teaches bead artists of all levels everything they need to know about color to create unique and vibrant beadwork designs. Margie discusses psychological and symbolic color associations, and ways in which color can be used to create and accentuate pattern, rhythm, and movement. 21 color schemes are described and illustrated in detail with accompanying projects for all skill levels. (Paperback, 144 pages)
\$21.95 US Dollars



Beading Her Image illustrates the power and beauty of the feminine in 15 seed bead patterns for **peyote, brick, square stitch, and loomwork**. Women from a wide range of times and cultures are woven into tapestries, necklaces, and bracelets. The stunning and gorgeous color palettes that artist Margie Deeb is known for adorn each piece.
Includes loom building instructions, finishing split loom necklace instructions, and peyote, brick, and looming instructions. (Paperback, 44 pages)
\$19.95 US Dollars



Out On A Loom is a creative journey through color, design, and form for the beginning to intermediate level seed bead artist.
The softcover book features 32 full-color pages of detailed instructions, patterns, illustrations, and diagrams for creating loom woven bracelets, mini-tapestries and split loom necklaces. Professional and creative finishing techniques are provided so each finished project can be a work of art. (Paperback, 36 pages)
\$19.95 US Dollars

Artist, designer, musician, and color expert



Margie Deeb is the author of several books, including the popular *The Beader's Guide*

to Color and *The Beader's Color Palette*.

She teaches color courses for artists, interior designers, and bead artists. Her free monthly color column, "*Margie's Muse*," is available on her website. She produces a free graphically enhanced podcast, "*Margie Deeb's Color Celebration*," available on iTunes.

Her articles have appeared in *Bead & Button* and *Beadwork* magazines, and she writes a regular color column in *Step-by-Step Beads*. She has appeared on the PBS show "Beads, Baubles, and Jewels" speaking about color. Visit Margie's website for her books, patterns, jewelry, inspiration, and more:
www.MargieDeeb.com

Margie's Blog:

colorforbeadartists.com

MARGIEDEEB.COM
The Art of Color for Bead Artists
April 2008

The Beader's Color Palette
Countdown: 2 Months To Go!
Pre-order your copy for 20% off an autographed copy.

Color Report for Bead Artists Spring/Summer '08
Download Now

PRE-ORDER SPECIAL!
2 months until the arrival of *The Beader's Color Palette*. While running a pre-order campaign through May 31st, be the first on your block to buy the book and receive 20% off an autographed copy. You'll be paying \$19.95 for a \$24.95 book (save shipping). Download an order form to pay with a check or money order. Or order@colorforbeadartists.com.
By the way, this month's "Margie's Muse" is an excerpt from the "Cultures of Our World" chapter of the book.

Margie's Muse
"Margie's Muse" is now available as Creative Commons licensed PDF. FREE!
This month learn to work beautiful patterns with historical motifs of Latin America for featured from *The Beader's Color Palette*.
Start downloading

The Beader's Color Palette Preview
Download an iPage complimentary Preview PDF (the 2nd of 3) and see what's in store for you in *The Beader's Color Palette*. Share it with everyone interested in color. Print it out. Use it for inspiration!

Listeners to Color

Join Margie's color coterie:
margiedeeb.com/newsletter