**Living Colour Postcards**

*by Liz Colledge, edited by Judy Hall, Punch with Judy*

While browsing in my favourite store I saw some of those animated picture frames with the running water and bird sounds. The colours were very iridescent and reminded me of Angelina® Fiber. My mind started whirling with ideas and this is what I came up with, postcards without the sounds and movement but with the beautiful shimmering colours that you can achieve using Angelina®. Hope you enjoy this simply but fun project, it can become addictive once you start collecting photos.

**Hints & Tips:**

* Instead of card paper, I used a sketch pad as it is a little thicker than copy paper.
* When choosing photos for this project, have a few to choose from, avoid photos with too many dark areas as they sometimes don’t work as well. Having said that, night photos of fireworks can be very effective, as you will see near the end of this project.
* If you don’t have any of your own photos that are suitable, do a search on the internet for ‘Free Landscape Photos’ you will find plenty of websites to choose from.
* Place the printed side down if there is no text in the image so as the image is not easily scratched when handled often.
* You may use either a single colour of Angelina® or blend colours together as will be done in this project.

**Requirements:**

- Tintex™ - 16.50cm x 11.50cm (6 ½” x 4 ½”)
- Card Paper
- Misty Fuse™ (White or Ultraviolet)
- Angelina® Fiber - for this project I used White H322, Gold H324 and Blue 15
- Inkjet Transparency suited to your printer, also known as Acetate or over head projector film.
- Assorted landscape photos
- Thread - contrast or matching machine embroidery thread, also metallic threads are great.
- Teflon pressing mat - two mats would be ideal though not necessary as the mat can be folded over.
- Sewline Glue Stick
**Preparation:**

- Print a few selected photos onto transparencies, resize if needed to 15.50cm x 10cm. When separating the photos printed on the transparency, leave a small border around the outside edge of the actual photo. This will help when we trim the Timtex™ sandwich.
- Cut Timtex™, paper and two pieces of Misty Fuse™ each 16.50cm x 11.50cm. See Fig. 2
- With iron set on silk, press one of the precut Misty Fuse™ to one side of the Timtex™, using a pressing sheet. Then carefully bond the paper to the fused side of the Timtex™, again using a pressing sheet.
- Set the Timtex™ unit aside for later use in the project.

**Making Angelina® fabric sheet:**

- Place the second piece of Misty Fuse™ onto a pressing sheet and spread a layer of white (H322) onto the Misty Fuse™. See Fig. 3.
- Next, place some gold (H324) and blue (15) onto this layer, followed by a final thin layer of white (322) on to the gold & blue. See Fig. 3
- Before bonding all the layers together, preview the photos that have been printed on the transparency on top of the Angelina®, some photos will have that ‘WOW’ factor and some won’t. Select a photo to suit your chosen Angelina® colours. At this stage you can also add or remove any colour that you need to. See Fig. 4
- Once you are happy with the combination, remove the photo and with a pressing sheet on top of the Angelina®, press for a few seconds with your iron on a silk setting.
- Check to see that the Angelina® is bonded together by lifting the top pressing sheet, if needed press again for a further few seconds. You can also turn over and press from the other side, still keeping the Angelina® sandwiched between the pressing sheets. Avoid over heating Angelina® as it can scorch and become dull in colour.
- Position your selected photo on top of the bonded Angelina®/Misty Fuse™. Trim the Angelina®/Misty Fuse™ a little larger than your photo. See Fig. 5

**Putting it all together:**

- Place the bonded Angelina®/Misty Fuse™ onto the other side of the Timtex™ with the Misty Fuse™ side down onto the Timtex™. Using a pressing sheet, lightly press Angelina® for a few seconds to bond to the Timtex™. See Fig. 6
- Using a Sewline Glue Pen, place a small dob of glue in each corner of the transparency image and centre the image onto the Timtex™/Angelina® sandwich. This will give a temporary hold while stitching the outer edge. See Fig. 6.
- Trim all layers to 16.50cm x 11.50cm. See Fig. 7

Fig. 6

Fig. 7

- Thread sewing machine with chosen colour top and bottom for the satin stitch around the outside edge of the card. The satin stitching will be done in three steps each on top of the other and each one a little longer and wider than the previous row to avoid some of the perforating to the transparency.

- Set your machine on a zigzag stitch. Please test your setting on a scrap of Timtex™ and adjust as needed, but suggest using:
  - Stitch row 1 - width 2.5 and length 2.0
  - Stitch row 2 - width 3.5 and length 0.8
  - Stitch row 3 - width 4.0 and length 0.25 See Figs. 8, 9 & 10

Fig. 8

Fig. 9

Fig. 10

Fig. 11

- Finally, on the back of your card, draw a division line down the centre and some lines for the address on the right hand side of the card. Give your card a title or name if you wish. See Fig. 11
The Photos above show some of the effects you can achieve with the variety of photos available. The first two are fireworks on Sydney Harbour on New Year’s Eve. Both were done using a pink colour with gold flecks. The green peacock tail feathers are mixture of white, blue & gold. The pink leaves at the bottom only used gold H 324. The orange flower used a mixture of whatever I had left mainly blue, white and pink.

I hope you have fun experimenting and gain much satisfaction with your achievements. I was “blown away” with the samples Liz made for my display at shows and for a class, so I asked her to share her experiments with you. Thanks Liz tremendously. I’d love to see YOUR results and maybe publish them on our Gallery Section. Judy Hall