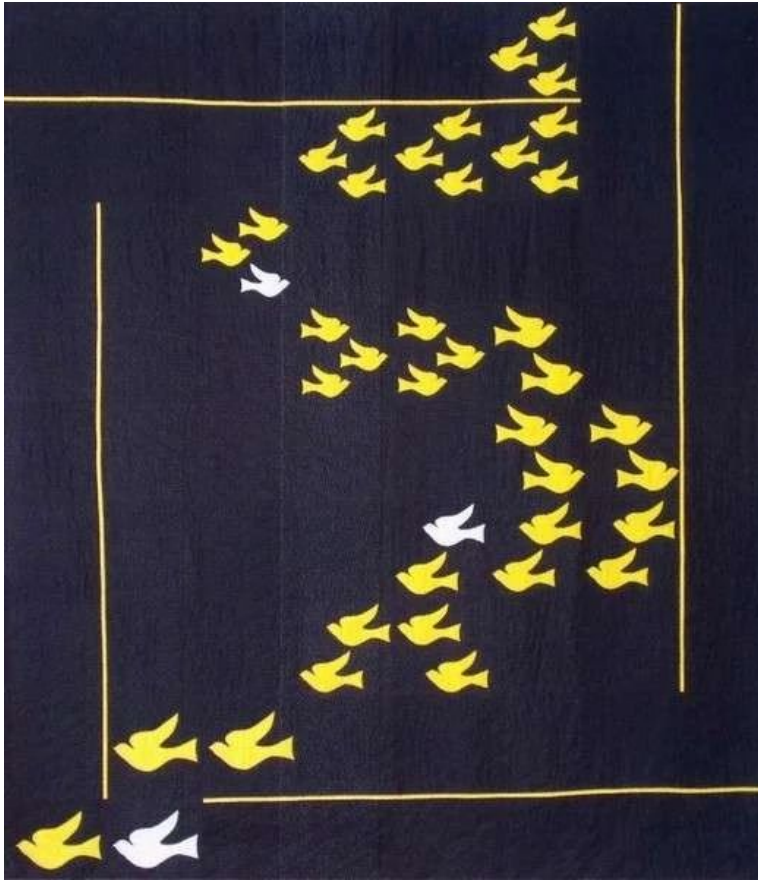


The Peace Train block.



This block was inspired by the 100 days of modern quilting, Piecing techniques, Debbie Grifka of [Esch House Quilts](#) where she used machine applique to create her lovely Traffic Pattern quilt.

Here's what Debbie had to say about working with applique:

“The fun challenge for me in creating modern appliqué is distilling an image down to its simplest shape. How much detail can I eliminate and still ensure the shape is recognizable? In this quilt, it had to be clear that the birds are flying. Additionally, there is

something very satisfying about directly placing a shape on a background exactly where I want it. I usually use only one piece of fabric for my appliqué shape instead of, in this case, using different fabrics for the wing and beak. My choice of appliqué method depends on the design, my mood and how quickly I'm trying to work. Traffic Pattern is done with fusible web and then stitched with a satin stitch. I also enjoy hand appliqué and other machine appliqué techniques. I encourage everyone to give appliqué a try. There are so many different ways to do appliqué, don't give up just because the first method you try doesn't appeal to you!”



For this months block we created an applique bird in two sizes. A 1 inch bias tape style applique was used to create lines on the block by ironing the 1" strip in half, then sewing onto the fabric a quarter inch from the raw edge, then folding it over onto itself covering the raw edge and sewn again to create a very tight line.

The applique birds are created by ironing on freezer paper to the back of the preferred bird color fabric, tracing in pencil the bird in reverse on the wax paper, then cutting it out. Place the cutouts on the background square to get positioning to your liking, then peel the wax paper off and pin the bird in place or use your preferred method of applique to affix the bird to the background fabric. The bird shapes are

then sewn around the raw edge with a tight zigzag stitch.

Templates are printed without the seam allowance shown if you prefer to needle turn your applique please add seam allowance desired when cutting them out, if not then cut out on the actual edge.

