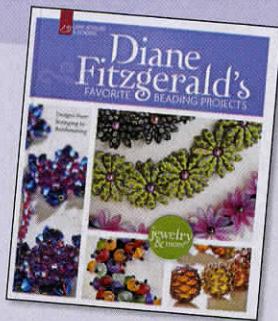


New at the Bookstore

Diane Fitzgerald's Favorite Beading Projects by Diane Fitzgerald

As the title indicates, this book is a collection of 24 of Diane Fitzgerald's favorite projects, published for the first time here. In addition to standard stitching techniques like peyote stitch, brick stitch, square stitch, and right-angle weave, Diane covers a modified peyote stitch with picots, triangle weave, Russian spiral rope, Zulu stitch, and a braiding technique. She also combines multiple stitches.

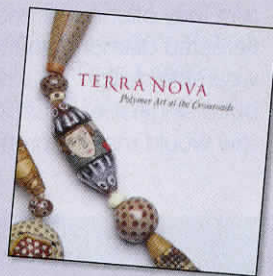
Each project is clearly photographed, diagrammed, and explained with detailed step-by-step instructions. Diane includes many helpful tips, definitions, and variations. I think I'll have to try her "Fortune-teller beads" on page 56. They look good enough to eat! – **Jane**



Sterling Publishing Co.
ISBN: 978-1-70059-922-4
larkcrafts.com

Terra Nova: Polymer Art at the Crossroads edited by Lena Vigna

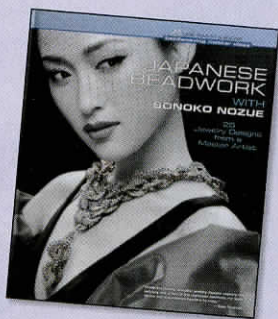
In the fall of 2011, an unassuming city on the shores of Lake Michigan played host to an incredible collection of polymer clay jewelry, sculpture, and furniture. The Racine Art Museum's exhibit "Terra Nova: Polymer Art at the Crossroads" brought together the work of artists they termed Boundary Breakers, people who have expressed themselves through polymer clay in unprecedented ways over the last 30 years. Now, the RAM presents this exhibit catalog so you can bring their impressive collection into your own home. Read articles by exhibit curators and contributors, including an interview with Elise Winters, then stroll through a printed gallery of jaw-dropping works by polymer visionaries like Cynthia Toops, Jeffrey Lloyd Dever, Steven Ford and David Forlano, plus many other names you might not know yet (but will want to keep tabs on in the future!). – **Stacy**



Racine Art Museum
ramart.org/shop/museum-store

Japanese Beadwork with Sonoko Nozue by Sonoko Nozue

In 2008, beading master Sonoko Nozue released *Mode de Beads*, a Japanese language how-to book showcasing a collection of her delicately beautiful beaded jewelry designs. Now, Lark Crafts has republished the collection in English in this latest release from their gorgeous Beadweaving Master Class series. The instructions are clear and easy to follow and many feature clever twists on familiar techniques, suggesting all sorts of wonderful stitching variations. Techniques covered include peyote stitch, netting, chevron chain, bead crochet, Zulu stitch, brick stitch, spiral rope, and daisy chain. Besides the 25 gracefully wearable designs, the lush gallery provides even more inspiration for beaders of all skill levels. – **Julia**



Sterling Publishing Co.
ISBN: 978-1-45470-278-8
larkcrafts.com

Ask Anna

Stringing and stitching materials

Q There are so many different materials for stringing and stitching beads. How do I know which one to use for my beading project?

A: That is a good question, and although there are many more products than I can cover here, I'll give you an overview of the basics.

If you are stringing beads in a single-strand necklace or bracelet, the go-to material is flexible beading wire, which has a core of internal twisted wires ranging from three to 49 strands and is coated with clear or colored nylon. The clear coating allows the metal to show through, so you can match your beading wire to metal beads and findings. Typically, flexible beading wire is finished off with crimp beads, making loops at the ends to create a place to attach a clasp or other finding. Make sure you use crimp beads and pliers that are appropriate to your wire gauge, or your crimps may not take. Some of the finer gauges can also be knotted and used in place of thread.

Flexible beading wire is sturdy and will usually last a lifetime if you choose the proper gauge for your beads. Use the largest gauge that will fit through your beads, and for long-lasting drape, choose one with a greater number of internal wires. Varieties with fewer internal wires can kink, resulting in a less-than-desirable effect.

As the number of internal wires go up, so does the price, but this is one instance of "you get what you pay for," and generally it is worth it to pay for the better quality.

