## MEET MODA'S NEW DESIGNER, IRA KENNEDY

Born in a tent near San Saba in 1941 as the son of migrant workers, Ira began his artistic career in New York City where he held two solo exhibitions and participated in the group show, "The Art of Money", with Andy Warhol and other notable artists in New York's Chelsea Gallery in 1969.

Artists of the past have had sudden shifts in their artistic style. Picasso's revelation came once he saw African art, and Van Gogh's discovery of Japanese art was equally life-changing. Likewise, around 2005, Ira's exposure to Australian Aboriginal art, the native arts of Mexico and the ancient rock art of the Southwest Indians came together to evoke an artistic epiphany.

"I have chosen to paint what can't be seen. It's not the color I see, it is the color I feel. Not just the



shape, but the shape's meaning. Not the composition, but the harmony. The rhythm of dots throughout the painting create an overall visual field which conveys a sense of wholeness, alive with the movement and shimmer of life. My work is to be sensed more than viewed. The paintings are not an object for the eye alone, but an experience for the mind —intimating, not imitating, that which is indescribable."

As an award winning artist, Ira's art work has appeared in numerous publications including Acrylic Works 2, Acrylic Artist Magazine and Southwest Art Magazine, and Creating Art Quilts with Panels. Ira's TV appearances include Texas Country Reporter with Bob Phillips.

His paintings are held in private collections from Australia to Texas and from Canada to South Korea. His original work is currently available only by commission.

From the dazzling fields of Bluebonnets to things closer at hand, like the Hummingbirds and Morning Glories in our backyard, my home place is in the Texas Hill Country. And it is here where I find my inspiration and insight into nature.

For years I painted in a realistic manner, then I visited Australia and began to realize that art is beyond national or cultural boundaries. While my technique is generally referred to as Pointillism it is actually much different in approach. I combine the movement found in the works of Van Gogh, with the inspiration derived from Australian Aboriginal Art to create a unique style. I have chosen to paint what can't be seen. It is not the color I see but the color I feel. Not just the shape but the shape's meaning. The rhythm of dots throughout the painting create an overall visual field which conveys a sense of wholeness, alive with the movement and shimmer of life.

The visual impact created by the dots, combined with the vivid colors of red, green, blue and orange, are a stunning combination on these large-scale prints, and are guaranteed to bring excitement and joy to any quilting project.









WEB PATTERN Bluebonnet Path 52"x 67"

**DECEMBER DELIVERY** 

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51241 11D Panel measures 28" X 44"





