Dear Students,

Boro textiles have been so inspirational to my own work and I look forward to sharing it with you in this class. We will start by looking at real Boro textile examples from my collection and talking about the history of Boro in Japan. Then you will learn the language of Boro by making your own sampler book. On day two you will use that Boro “language” on a length of fabric that will be made into a Japanese style bag. Day three will be a day to explore your own personal direction with this art form and you may embellish clothing, create items for the home, or start an art piece inspired by the Boro aesthetic.

I will bring basic fabrics for the sampler book pages (5 pages at either 4 x 6 or 5 x 7), and the bags (one length of fabric 12 x 36), as well as scraps of fabric and thread for you to use. This is part of your supply fee but you are welcome to bring your own if you know there is fabric you want to work with (note the dimensions stated above).

I encourage you to bring you own fabric scraps so that you can make your projects your own and unique to you and your aesthetic. These could be fabrics left over from sewing projects, fabric printing or dyeing classes, or old clothing or other textiles. Boro textiles are rooted in sustainability and re-use of materials – so think re-purposing!

Required tools:
- Fabric scissors
- Pins
- Needles in a variety of sizes to accommodate different threads
- Pencil and paper for taking notes

Optional tools:
- Rotary cutter and cutting mat (cutting mat is required if using a rotary cutter)
- Awl (for the sampler book – please bring if you have one)
- Sewing machine
- Ruler, square, measuring tape
- Chalk or other fabric marker

Suggested materials:
Fabric that you want to work with – can be very small scraps, large pieces of cloth, or old clothing or textiles – think re-purposing!

Bring snacks, beverages and a lunch!
I look forward to seeing you in class!

Jody Alexander