PAINTING WITH EARTH PIGMENTS AND SOYMILK

PART 1: PRETREATING THE FABRIC WITH SOY MILK

Put a ¼ cup of dry soybeans in a jar & cover with water, let sit over night. Next day, rinse off the soaking water. Add the soybeans & 3 cups of warm water to a blender & run on medium for 4 minutes. Strain the blended liquid through the muslin – keep the liquid. Scoop the soybean residue off the muslin & put back into the blender & add 2 cups of warm water, run the blender on medium for 4 minutes. Strain the liquid through the muslin & save the liquid. Now toss the soybean residue & wash out the muslin to dry. Thin out your fresh soymilk solution by adding more water until it looks the color of “skim milk”. Soak your fabric in the soymilk. Allow the fabric to AIR dry completely. Keep the remaining soymilk in the fridge. Don’t wait longer than 2 weeks to use the soymilk-pretreated fabric.

PART 2: MAKING THE EARTH PIGMENT SOLUTION

Combine 1 teaspoon of the powder earth pigment or powder indigo with 1 tablespoon of soymilk. Slowly mix/grind together until the pigment is fully wet & combined with the soymilk. To thicken use gum tragacanth or organic printing gum, but only adding very little at a time. Store in fridge & use within next few days.

PART 3: APPLYING THE PIGMENT TO THE FABRIC

Apply the freshly made earth pigment soymilk paint to the soymilk-pretreated fabric.

PART 4: AIR CURE

Let fabric hang dry completely & air cure for 2 days or up to a month.

PART 5: WASHING OUT

Wash your fabric out with a fabric detergent or synthrapol.

SEWINGSEEDS