

# **RAMBLING ROSE**

**August 2003**

## **Design Inspiration**

The inspiration for this design was a picture of a sheer, embroidered tunic with an intricate border around the hem. I created my own version of this garment by assembling different, compatible embroidery designs into a wide border. I also scattered small elements of the design in the body of the tunic. By creating my own embellished fabric I was able to fit the design exactly to the dimensions of my pattern.

## **Fabrics**

Tunic and top: 100 % silk organza.

## **Embellishments**

Tunic and top: machine embroidery designs from Beautiful Borders by Sue Box, decoratively machine stitched hem.

## **Patterns**

Tunic: McCalls 2808.

Top: Butterick 6082.

## **Special Sewing Techniques**

Several rose designs were combined and edited in software to produce a complex, wide border that required multiple, accurate hoopings. Most of the garment pieces were embroidered before being cut out. To complete the border around the hem, the side seams of the tunic were sewn first and then embroidered. The seams utilize a special seaming technique for sheer fabrics that involves preliminary stitching, trimming, and then final stitching to secure very narrow seam allowances. The hems are narrow hemmed, trimmed and then decoratively stitched in a scalloped pattern.

## **Exhibitions and Awards**

3rd place, Professional Wearable Art, "Everyone Loves Sulky" Challenge, August 2004.

1st place, Single-Color Design, 2006 Stitch-Off Competition, April 2006.

Grand-Prize, 2006 Stitch-Off Competition, April 2006.