



PREFACE

I'm inspired by the geometry of a square. The square shows up in life in myriad forms: from patio pavers to modern architecture to floor tiles. I can't recall how many times I've been in a hotel bathroom and begun sketching the tile work on the floor and walls. Even on casual walks through new cities, I'd stop and ponder what's before me; then the sketching would start. It's a shape that just won't leave me alone...be done...over with!

The square, one of the fundamental shapes of geometry, is a building block for a multitude of other shapes. I, armed with a camera, or more likely my smart phone, recorded the patterns made with squares during my travels through France, Italy, Ireland and major cities in the United States. Churches, courtyards, town centers, public parks, even my own back yard provide frameworks for building a quilt. The square can appear huge or small, sometimes elongated or truncated, and then divided into triangles.

Obsessed, and brimming with a plethora of ideas, I sketched and stitched quilts. *Bricks, Cobblestones and Pebbles* came to life. I explored the square through its many variations. Contemporary designs with moderate piecing viewed through a barrage of color. Modern designs with limited piecing echoing clean lines and a bold presence. Scrappy designs because, my heavens, how did I get so much stuff! Scrappy is full of complexity, with a warmth of texture.

The square, simplistic yet powerful in form, became the building block of the 21 "blueprints" for the quilt designs in *Bricks, Cobblestones and Pebbles*. I, rooted in traditional quilting, known for contemporary quilts, was firmly paving a path to modern.