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## Pieces of my Heart

Elizabeth Enoch  
*University of North Texas*

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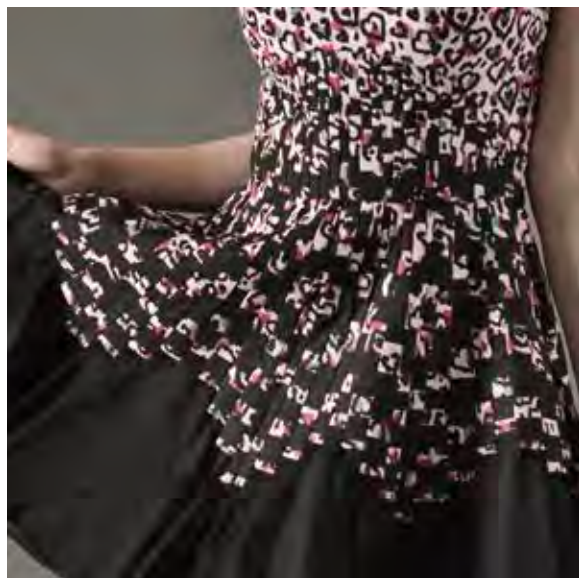
Elizabeth Enoch, University of North Texas, USA

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The artist successfully captured a spirit of youthful whimsy via this dress' full flirty skirt and fun print. Traditional foundation piecing techniques (borrowed from the world of quilting) were modified to create an engaging secondary pattern while transitioning from a stylized heart print to solid black. Sheer black silk gores cleverly inserted into the pieced design at the sweep add movement and interest.

Construction began with an intricate piecing plan layered on pattern pieces, carefully plotted using computer aided pattern design. Transition from print to solid was achieved through strip piecing utilizing lengths of fabric of gradually increasing or decreasing width. Using marking pens, the plot was colored to clarify details and maximize visualization.

With the colored piecing plan close at hand, construction began with generously flared silk insets placed on a cotton base fabric at the sweep. Next, sections of joined strips (strip sets) were strategically placed over the insets, offsetting as needed to create the secondary pattern and progressing toward the pieced waistline. When the waistline was



complete, the dress was topped with a print bodice - delicately tipped with black piping at the neckline and armholes.

Fun, flirty, and flippy, this dress is sure to capture a young lady's entire heart..... not just pieces!

