

F13D074 - Found Materials and Assemblage

Instructor Jenny McMaster: rayemasterjen@yahoo.com

Sunday from 1:00 to 4:00

Break the boundaries between art and the stuff of the everyday! This class will introduce students to the practice of incorporating found objects into two and three dimensional artwork, from high relief to shadow boxes. Participants will develop strategies of harmoniously combining fine art and salvaged materials. They will experiment with various means of object mounting to canvas, heavy paper and mat board through, mediums, adhesives and sewing. They will also reconsider these bases through de- and reconstruction. Students will learn construct shelves and compartments in boxes with foam-core and mat-board. They will be encouraged to re-examine their environment and develop a keen eye for materials in unusual locations.

Eight Three Hour Sessions

Materials and Tools (those needed for first class in bold):

- **A sketch book for notes and experiments**
- **A selection of handmade papers**
- **Found papers (no magazines)**
- Found objects
- A selection of fabric scraps
- An item of clothing you would like to de-construct
- **Cotton thread of at least three colours**
- **Embroidery floss of at least three colours**
- **Needles**
- Embroidery or crewel work needles
- **An x-acto knife**
- **straight pins**
- **a stitch-ripper**
- **Scissors: a pair for paper, a pair for fabric**
- **2B or Mechanical pencil**
- **coloured pencils**
- Acrylic paints and acrylic mat medium
- Acrylic modelling paste
- gesso
- Brushes, palette and palette knife
- **A sheet of 260 lb watercolour paper**
- Canvas bars and unprimed canvas to make 2 pieces (10 x 12 to 16 x 20)
- Wooden craft box from the dollar store, a deep frame or another kind of case (please discuss with instructor)
- Scrap mat board and foam-core or balsa wood

- PVA or Carpenter Glue
- hot-glue sticks

Materials and Tools Provided

- Cutting mats
- A set square
- A swinging arm mat/paper cutter
- A staple gun
- Hot glue gun

Session One:

Introduction to Materials and Techniques: Discussion of upcoming projects and found materials to be on the look out for and a Power Point presentation of artists using the techniques employed in this class.

Experimentation with the textures, thickness, transparency and colour of found and handmade papers: Students will employ ripping, cutting and stitching to create images and compositions on 260 lb watercolour paper. Coloured pencil may also be used.

Session Two:

Continuation of paper based collage from previous class. Incorporation of object mounting with simple couching techniques and other embroidery stitches.

Session Three and Four:

Object mounting on canvas: Students will create a mixed media composition by couching twine, string, wire and other objects onto canvas. They may also attach objects using screening or sheer fabric. Paint and medium will also be used in this composition.

Session Five and Six:

Deconstruction, Stitch-work and Raw Canvas: Students will create a composition by deconstructing an item of clothing and attaching its component parts to a stretched canvas. The project will also involve the deconstruction and reconstruction of the surface of their canvas. Students will be encouraged to experiment with the application of paint to raw versus gessoed canvas.

Students will discuss appropriate objects and boxes for assemblage in upcoming classes.

Sessions Seven and Eight: Creation of an Assemblage of Found Objects in a Box or Deep Frame: Using mat board and foam-core or balsa wood, to build a base students will design an assemblage box. They will attach found objects with sewing, hot glue and mediums, as well as employing paint and fabric.

