

Nature Printing Workshop

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please contact me with any questions

Level: Beginner/All Levels

Description:

Note: This supply list has two pages

Explore the possibilities of printing on fabric using acrylic and translucent paints and forms from nature. Techniques covered include gyotaku (fish printing), leaf and produce printing, UV reactive dye printing, and heliographic imaging (sunprinting).

Materials & Supplies:

Supply Fee: \$15.00 (paints, inks & dyes)

3-4 yards of prepared-for-dyeing (PFD) white fabric - cut into fat quarters (approx 18" x 22") for sunprinting **note: if you can't find PFD, use a good-quality solid white and pre-wash well to removing sizing*

8-10 fat eighths and/or fat quarters of light to medium color commercial fabric (Bali handpaints work well) for printing leaves, fish, and other natural forms - pre-wash fabric!

Please label the corner of each piece of fabric with your initials using a permanent marker

A roll of paper towels

An assortment of acrylic or textile paints (Jacquard Lumiere, Neopaque, and Liquitex soft-body acrylics are all great)

Rubber gloves, if you don't like getting your hands dirty

One 20" x 30" piece of foam core board & a painter's plastic dropcloth cut into pieces approx 18" x 24" (clear or white plastic)

Spray mister

An old phone book (this will get ruined) or a pad of newsprint

4-6 plastic containers like clean deli containers or Gladware in 2 cup size

Brushes:

an assortment of foam brushes (1", 1½", 2" - several of each)

1" flats (acrylic or watercolor)

a couple of very fine brushes, like #00, #0, #1 or liner (acrylic or watercolor)

Items to be used as "masks" - some suggestions:

natural items like leaves or flowers can be fresh or dried, but must be thin and flat (press them in a book), soft leaves work better than stiff leaves; designs cut from paper; thin wood cutouts; lace; cheesecloth; feathers; seashells & starfish. Bring a bunch!

Natural forms:

Leaves to print: avoid thick, fleshy leaves, look for different sizes, types, patterns, interesting edges; durable, flat leaves with strong veins work best. Pick leaves fresh and refrigerate in plastic bags or press between damp paper towels. You will need at least 8 leaves, more is better, larger is better, variety is good.

Firm vegetables and fruits like apples, pears, cucumbers, potatoes, or ? - bring just a couple - you'll want to trade after you've printed the ones you've brought. Don't forget a sharp knife for slicing.

Optional: a plastic bin, dishpan or kitty litter pan and a large garbage bag for transporting wet stuff home

Dress for a mess! An apron or smock is a good idea.