

Program Name: Printmaking: Linoleum Block Printing

Artist: Maryanna Stark Adelman

Special Requirements:

25 students maximum;
newspapers; linoleum;
cutting tools; ink; pencils;
paper; access to water

Special Points of Interest:

During the Renaissance,
wood block artists rarely cut
their own designs.
Professional block cutters
did the work.

Other programs by this artist:

[-Pop- Art Screen Prints](#)
[-Printmaking- Collograph Printing](#)
[-Stamp Printing](#)

Workshop Description

Maryanna Stark Adelman introduces students to the unique qualities of linoleum block printing during this 3-5 day residency. Her goal is to use the art techniques she has acquired through experience to reinforce basic art concepts. She also emphasizes the importance of preparation, design, and safety while creating a linoleum block print.

Maryanna doesn't believe in mistakes. She shows the student how *mistakes* can be turned into beauty with a little skill and vision.

Maryanna begins the residency with a showing of linoleum blocks and linoleum block prints. She uses this as an opportunity to engage the

participants in a exploration of objective and non-objective images. A detailed discussion follows on the importance of preliminary sketches in the planning of a linoleum block project.

Maryanna uses many demonstrations in this residency, including: how to cut linoleum, creating registration paper, and the technique for rolling ink onto their plates for printing.

Maryanna also emphasizes that cleaning up after a project is just as important as preparing for the workshop. Her goal is to reinforce the ideals of responsibility and cooperation amongst the students.

Educational Objectives & Standards

Students will:

- Learn the importance of project preparation, preliminary drawing and design, and turning *mistakes* into opportunity
- Reinforce basic art concepts of: pattern, design, shape, texture, and *over-printing*

Life Skills:

- Concentrates mental and physical energies

Visual Arts:

- Understands and applies media, techniques, and processes related to the visual arts



Colored Glass - 1964-65

Adelman has earned a B.A. in Theatre from Baker University, B.F.A. in painting from the Kansas City Art Institute and a M.A. in printmaking and painting from the University of Missouri, Kansas City. In addition to teaching with Young Audiences, she currently teaches drawing at the University of Central Missouri in Warrensburg. Maryanna has also taught high school art and theatre as well as led art workshops in early childhood development. She is a practicing artist whose work may be seen locally at the Late Show Gallery and on line at maryannaadelman.com

Her work focuses on

abstractions found in nature and everyday life. Color, shape, line and rhythm are the focus while the recognition of the landscape or objects becomes secondary. Perhaps because of her early theatre training, Maryanna sees the printing plate as a stage. The artist and the printmaking process interact on it with dialogue and improvisation. Maryanna encourages her students to experiment with the process. The “happy accidents” that sometimes occur when using unfamiliar materials and techniques creates an image rich with layers and depth.

List of Resources:

Books:

Linoleum Block Printing
by Francis J. Kafka
Dover Publications; (June 1, 1972)
ISBN: 0486203085

Simple Printmaking: A Beginner's Guide to Making Relief Prints with Rubber Stamps, Linoleum Blocks, Wood Blocks, Found objects
by Gwen Diehn
Sterling Publishing; (December 2000)
ASIN: 1579901581

The Cutting Edge of Modernity: Linocuts from the Grosvenor School
by Gordon Samuel, Nicola Penny
Lund Humphries Publishers; (August 1, 2002)
ISBN: 0853318662

Contact KCYA for more information about this and other programs

816.531.4022
KC YA.org

Vocabulary

Brayer: a roller used to transfer ink from the palette to the block.

Edition: a series of prints pulled from the same plate. The prints in an edition should look as identical as possible.

Registration: accurately aligning a printing block two or more times on the same print.

Reverse Image: the printed image will always be a mirror image of the block.

Print: an original work of art, hand made by the artist.

Reproduction: a mechanical copy of a work of art.

Relief Print: Printing from the raised surface of the plate.

Post-Workshop Activities

1. Plan new images to produce with linoleum blocks using the techniques learned in the residency.
2. Visit a library or museum and explore a variety of linoleum block prints created by artists over the past centuries. Look for successful translation of the block to the print.
3. Experiment with other materials to create printing blocks: coins, bottle caps, vegetables, etc.

