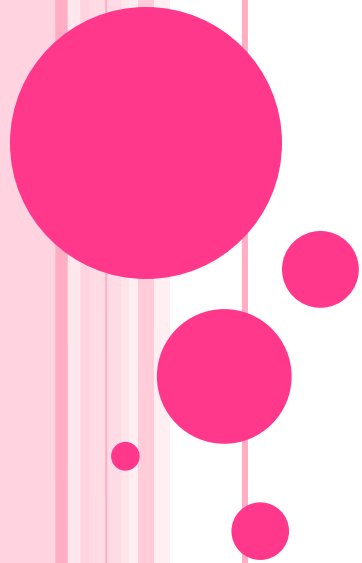


Printmaking

Unit

Art 3200



What is Printmaking?

- Printmaking is a sometimes misunderstood aspect of visual art.
- Fine art printmaking involves the creation of a master plate from which multiple images are made.
- Simply put, the artist chooses a surface to be the plate.
 - This could be linoleum, styrofoam, metal, cardboard, stone or any one of a number of materials.



What is Printmaking?

- Then the artist prepares the printing plate by cutting, etching or drawing an image onto the plate.
- Ink is applied (in a variety of ways) and paper is pressed onto the plate either by hand or by way of a hand-run printing press.
- The finished print is pulled from the plate.



What is an edition?

- *Artist's Proofs* - Often the first three or four prints of are different than the rest of the edition. These first prints are called **artist's proofs**.
- *Edition* - The number of prints pulled from one plate is called an edition. Once a certain number of prints are pulled, the plate is destroyed so that more prints won't be printed later, thus ensuring the value of the edition.



What is an edition?

- At the bottom of a print are two to three things always written in pencil.
- On the left is a number that appears as a fraction (e.g. 6/25), this means that the print is number six of a total of twenty five prints pulled from one plate. This number excludes the artist proofs which are designated with an A/P.
- In the centre of the bottom of the print is the title (if any).
- At the bottom right, is the artist's name and sometimes a date.



Relief Printing

- This is printing from a raised surface.
- A simple example of relief printing is a rubber stamp pressed into a stamp pad and pressed onto a piece of paper.
- Relief printing plates are made from flat sheets of material such as wood, linoleum, metal, styrofoam etc.
- After drawing a picture on the surface, the artist uses tools to cut away the areas that will not print.



Relief Printing

- A roller - called a *brayer* - is used to spread ink on the plate.
- A sheet of paper is placed on top of the plate and the image is transferred by rubbing with the hand or a block of wood, or by being run through a printing press.
- The completed print is a mirror image of the original plate.
- Woodcut - Historical uses: Textiles and other decorative purposes, playing cards, calendars and book illustrations.



Relief Printing



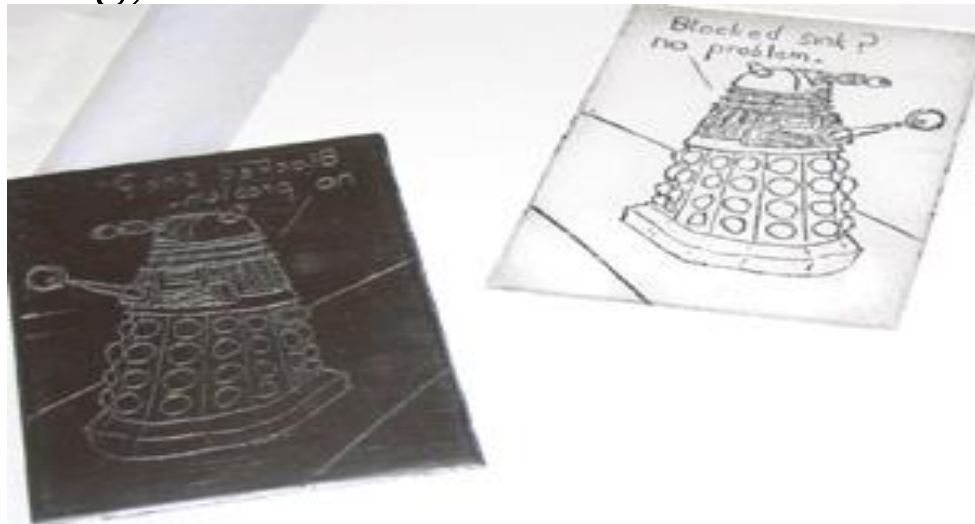
Intaglio

- This describes prints that are made by cutting the picture into the surface of the printing plate.
- Using a sharp V-shaped tool - called a *burin* - the printmaker gouges the lines of an image into the surface of a smooth polished sheet of metal or in some cases a piece of plexiglass.
- To make a print, ink is pushed into the lines of the design.
- The surface is then wiped clean so that the only areas with ink are the lines.



Intaglio

- A sheet of paper which has been soaked in water is then placed on the plate which is run through a printing press.
- The paper is literally forced into the small lines that have been cut into the plate.
- A variation of this technique is known as etching. With etching, acids are used to eat into the metal plate.



Lithography

- Lithography is the art of printing from a flat stone (limestone) or metal plate by a method based on the simple fact that grease attracts grease as it repels water.
- A design or image is drawn on the surface with a greasy material - grease crayon, pencil or ink - and then water and printing ink are applied.
- The greasy parts absorb the ink and the wet parts do not.
- Acids are often used with this type of printmaking to etch the stone and prevent grease from travelling where it should not.



Serigraphy

- A ***stencil*** is a sheet of paper, fabric, plastic, metal or other material with designs cut, perforated or punched from it.
- Ink is forced through the openings onto the surface (paper, fabric etc.) to be printed.
- Sometimes called silk screening, ***serigraphy*** (seri means silk) is a type of stencil printing.
- A stencil is fastened to a sheet of silk which is tightly stretched across a wooden frame. Or, an area of the silk is "blocked out" using glue, gum arabic or shellac.



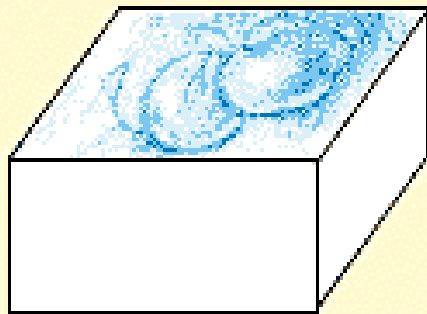
Serigraphy

- The frame is placed against the material to be printed. A squeegee (rubber mounted in wooden handle) is used to push the ink through the open areas onto the material or paper below.
- Stencil & Serigraphy: Uses Signs and posters, decorating furniture, textiles (t-shirts)

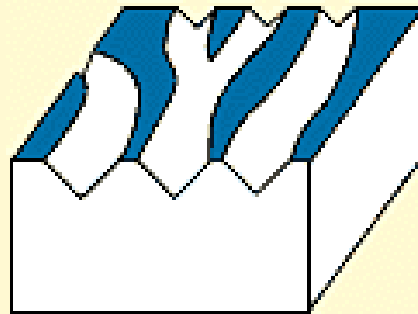


Types of Printmaking

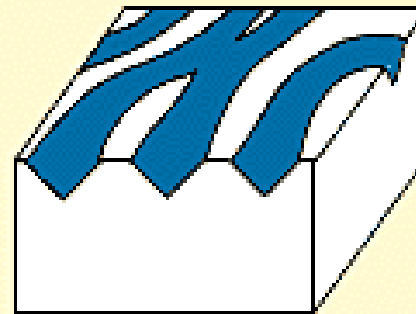
FOUR MAJOR TYPES OF PRINTING



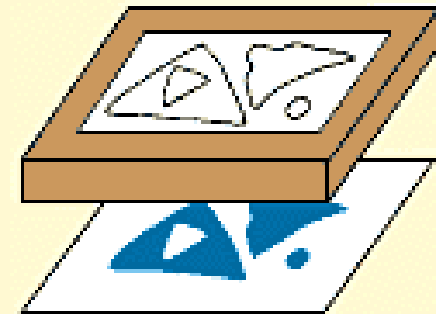
Planography:
prints what is
drawn on the
surface



Relief:
prints what
is left of the
original surface



Intaglio:
prints what
is below the
surface



Stencil:
prints through
open areas in
screen



Monoprints & Monotypes

- *Monoprint* is the term for any individual original print that is part of a limited edition as opposed to a reproduction which is a copy of something else, such as a poster print of a painting.
- Monoprint can also be any of a number of prints pulled from a single plate, but with no attempt to print any two the same way.



Monoprints & Monotypes

- *Monotype* is a unique work of art usually printed from a smooth flat surface such as a sheet of plastic.
- The artist paints by hand the image to be printed directly on this smooth surface and then places a sheet of paper over the freshly painted surface, cranks it through a press, and so creates a one-of-a-kind work of art.
- Monotypes, by their nature, cannot be produced as an edition. If they are numbered at all they are numbered as 1/1 (read as "one of one"... an edition of one, in other words).



Printmaking Project 1: Personal Imagery Monoprint

For this project, you will learn how to make monoprints using tin foil. **Monoprinting** is a process whereby only one print is pulled from the printing plate.

Monoprint Requirements:

Choose 1 personal object that has sentimental value for you.

You will need to sketch a *detailed **contour*** drawing of your object (try at least 3 different compositions). You will then choose the best composition.

Choose colours for your monoprint that portray the feeling that you are trying to convey to your audience. For example, if the object reminds you of a happy memory, choose colours that are happy and bright.

You must be able to finish your end product in an accomplished, expressive, and neatly executed manner.



Printmaking Project 1: Personal Imagery Monoprint

How to create your Monoprint:

1. Pre-cut your foil a little bigger than the paper you will be using.
2. You will then paint a picture quickly onto the foil making sure the paint application is thick so that it does not dry too quickly.
3. When design is complete, place paper on top of paint and pat or gently rub on back of paper to get the paint to adhere to the paper.
4. Remove paper from foil gently and carefully.

The result is a monoprint!



Printmaking Project 1: Personal Imagery Monoprint

Project will be marked on the following:

- ➔ Sketchbook Drawings
- ➔ Followed Instructions
- ➔ Effort/Neatness
- ➔ Level of Completion
- ➔ Quality of Monoprint
- ➔ Creativity



Printmaking Project 2: Stamp Print Letter Design

You will be carving designs into erasers and using markers to make ***relief prints***.

When printed, the areas that are cut away will remain the color of the paper, while the uncut or raised areas will print the colors that have been applied to them.

The *repetition*, or repeating, of relief prints can create surprising, new patterns.

Your stamp design must have your initial (first or last) as the focal point of the image. This stamp will then be used repeatedly to fill up an entire page.



Printmaking Project 2: Stamp Print Letter Design

How to Begin:

1. Draw your design in your sketchbook.
2. Your letter will be the focal point of your design. Create a pattern behind your letter. Sketch at least 3 possible designs in your sketchbook.
3. You will then draw the design that you like best onto your eraser with a black marker.
4. Cut out the lines or the spaces between the lines with carving tools.
5. Remove any bits of eraser caught in the cut away areas with a paint brush.



Printmaking Project 2: Stamp Print Letter Design

6. Experiment with different colours by wiping off the eraser with a damp sponge and drying it well. Apply new colours and test again.
7. Plan your design on your guide sheet.
8. Draw an arrow on the back of the eraser pointing to one of the eraser's corners.
9. Each print should be made within one of the squares on the guide sheet. The direction of the arrow should remain consistent throughout the printing process. For example, when printing in a circular pattern, the arrow should rotate and always point to the the circle on the guide sheet each time a print is made.



Printmaking Project 2: Stamp Print Letter Design

Proper Use of Cutting Tools:

Hold the side of the eraser that is closest to you and always cut away from your hand.

With the tool almost horizontal to the eraser, push slowly into the surface, cutting away only a thin layer.

The **liner** and **v-gouge** make fine lines; the **u-gouge** makes wider lines.

The **large gouge** is used to cut away large sections.

Avoid cutting deep gouges in the eraser, which is not necessary and will make carving more difficult.

Printmaking Project 2: Stamp Print Letter Design

Important Notes to Remember:

You will need to reapply the marker ink before each impression is made.

Be sure the surfaces of the erasers are square, so the prints will line up properly.

Practice and get a feel for the cutting tools by carving a few lines into the bottom of their erasers.

Use the lighter colors of markers first to keep them from picking up the darker colors. If the markers do become discolored, wipe them with a paper towel.

Use magazines for the padded printing surfaces instead of newspaper, which tends to leave marks on the rice paper.

If time permits, it's fun to see the effects of using different colors and different printing patterns.



Printmaking Project 2: Stamp Print Letter Design



Printmaking Project 2: Stamp Print Letter Design

Project will be marked on the following:

- Sketchbook Drawings
- Followed Instructions
- Effort/Neatness
- Level of Completion
- Quality of Stamp Printing
- Creativity



MARKING SCALE

- 4 = Excellent
- 3 = Very Good
- 2 = Average
- 1 = Poor
- 0 = Incomplete

