

Printing Without a Press Workshop

PRINTING WITHOUT A PRESS

Discover a whole new world of artistic possibility when you design and create using gelatin printing techniques! Create one-of-a-kind, painterly prints using the GelliArts plate as a printing surface. Ink transfers beautifully from the smooth gelatin surface, with very little pressure. The material is very versatile, and while it can mimic traditional printing processes, it possesses its own unique qualities and the process lends itself to experimentation. Layer colors, patterns, and images to create richly textured works of art in paper. We will experiment with several different paints and inks on various papers.

Gelatin prints are a monotype printing process where you apply paint on the gelatin plate, make designs in the paint or put down stencils, then press a piece of paper onto the paint-covered gelatin. When you “pull the print” off the gelatin the design transfers to your paper. No need for a press. Gelatin monotype printing is a low-tech, non-toxic form of printmaking that requires no press and uses water-based inks or paint.

Because you never really know what you’re going to get when you pull your print, this process is perfect for experimentation and simply finding joy in the creative process.

Participants will be instructed in a variety of techniques, and then create a finished piece to take home.

Utilize this process for your design work. Create your own interesting and dynamic backgrounds, illustrations and images.

Collage with the papers that you print to create complex images on paper.

Techniques:

1. Single and multiple color prints

Roll paints onto gelli plate

Press textures into paint– pull – repeat 3-4 times with different colors and textures

Add a rainbow roll – 2 or more colors roll out together

Use stencils – pull 3-4 times using various colors and stencils

Second pull is called a “ghost print”

2. Negative vs. Positive prints

Tape paper to each side of gelli plate

Solid roll or rainbow roll

Put a stencil down on the gelli plate – pull over the paper on the right and rub gently – pull then take off the stencil and pull over the paper on the left. Rub

gently then pull.

3. Masking

Cut your own masks by using a piece of cheap drawing paper, cut your shape with an exacto knife or scissors

Solid or rainbow roll your paints, apply texture if you want, put down your mask (either the positive or the negative), put your paper down, rub and pull.

Pull 1 with the mask on, then pull another with it taken off

Textures:

Stencils

Paper cup bottom

Crumpled lunch bag

Sequin waste

Corrugated cardboard

Bubble wrap

String

stamps

Paints - Acrylics

Golden fluid

Golden Open acrylics

Craft acrylics

Liquitex (or other brand) heavy body acrylic

Supplies

Glazing medium or retarder (to extend drying time of the paints)

Baby wipes or rubbing alcohol and paper towels to clean up