



Woodblock Relief Printmaking

Semester: Spring 2024

Days: Mondays, June 3-July 22

Time: 6:00-8:00 PM

Instructor Name: Eric Piper

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Course Description: Dive into the art of relief printmaking in our comprehensive workshop. Delve into a brief history of the craft and explore a variety of techniques such as image transferring methods, multi-block, split fountain, a la poupée, and embossing. We will run timed creative drills, play some collaborative surrealist printmaking games, and participate in a class print exchange. Join us to develop your skill set and create unique prints that capture your artistic vision.

What will you learn?

- 1.) Students will develop a thorough understanding of the relief printmaking tools, equipment, and process, from start to finish.
- 2.) Students will create a small edition of their own original design.
- 3.) Students will analyze their prints and understand how to make changes to achieve their desired results.
- 4.) Students will learn and be able to use the skills and techniques learned to create their own relief prints independently.

Materials

- Sketchbook or Journal
- Pen, Pencils, Sharpies
- Kasoyo Five Piece Power-Grip Carving Set
- Flexcut Slipstrop

Class Schedule

Class 1: Students will be introduced to a brief history of relief printmaking, and, after a demonstration of image transfer methods, as well as safe and proper use of tools, the students will carve an experimental block using techniques highlighted in the presentation.



Class 2: Instructor will demonstrate the inking and printing process and techniques such as split-fountain and à la poupée. Students will print their experimental blocks using various methods and learn proper cleanup and maintenance of workspace, tools, and equipment.

Class 3: Instructor will demonstrate multi-block, registration, and jigsaw multi-block techniques. Students will follow along and experiment with techniques. Everyone will print proofs and work together to clean the shop.

Class 4: Class plays an old surrealist game where everyone's images eventually become spliced together for collective amusement.

Class 5: Instructor will demonstrate and elaborate on embossing techniques. Class will participate in timed creative drills and then begin creating a print that will be a part of a class print exchange.

Class 6: The instructor will go over paper tearing and proper editioning techniques for fine art prints. Students will begin paper tearing/prepping. Students will begin printing a very small edition (3-5) of their block.

Class 7: Studio day. Wrap up printing. Students will finish printing their projects and we will clean up the shop.

Class 8: Any last-minute issues are wrapped up and everyone engage in a casual group critique of the prints.