

MISSA 2012

Lost & Found: Collage Plus

Dorothy Field

Student Supplies:

Scissors, gluestick and/or PVA (white glue), ruler, anything you might use to work back into a collage such as drawing pencils, pen and ink, watercolour or acrylic paints.

Needle and thread (optional)

A potato and small paring knife

Hair dryer (very optional)

A few boxes, wood or cardboard, in which to do 3-dimensional assemblage

The following lists are just to give you a starting point:

All sorts of stuff: a variety of papers (thin, thick, translucent, opaque, paper with text or images, the wrappers for apples or pears, tissue paper, corrugated cardboard, sandpaper, metallic papers, etc.) My bias is away from glossy magazines toward papers with a more handmade feel but that's up to you. It will be good to have some handmade paper or handmade-ish papers – scraps and big and small bits will be fine.

Also, threads, bits of this or that, things that draw you, things you hate.

Shells or feathers or anything beautiful or revolting, any old thing you've been hanging onto because you can't bear to let it go but you don't know what to do with it.

Anything you're ready to tear up, botched watercolours, miserable old love notes, rejection letters, calligraphy practice sheets, music scores, words to memorialize or bury.

If you have photographic imagery you'd like to work with, you might want to have it photocopied onto handmade or handmade-ish paper (most commercial copy places won't do this on true handmade paper but you can ask. Many stock some kind of vellum sheets that are semi-translucent and work reasonably well). I print photographic imagery from my computer onto handmade paper using my regular inkjet printer (I think this will work in most printers). If the paper is very thin, taping the lead edge to a sheet of regular computer paper usually works. Mid-weight handmade paper tends to go through without a problem. Either black and white or coloured imagery works.

I will supply poster board in a range of colours for backgrounds to collage onto, as well as a variety of handmade and other papers. I will also have PVA, matte medium, dry pigments, starch, and whatever basic materials might come in handy.

Don't go out and buy a lot of stuff you may never use again. The above lists are just to give you some ideas of what you might want to work with. Bring what you have, what you like to work with, or what you'd like to try. I'll bring what I have and we'll share.

I also encourage you to bring art books you love (or hate) to share with the class, poems or quotes that are important to you.

Final note: if you think you might use something, even if you have no idea how, bring it along. It's often better to have a wide range to choose from since there's no telling where your process will take you.

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