

# Course Description

## Palmarin Merges

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### *Collagraph*

Check official M.A.C. Course Catalog for updated dates and times. For examples of Collagraphs created by the Instructor, please go to her website at [www.palmarinmerges.com](http://www.palmarinmerges.com).

► **OPEN STUDIO SESSIONS**

are included in the price of the class.

Dive head-first into the world of printmaking by putting together a collagraph plate. Collagraphs are prints made from a plate that's a collage of everything that seems useless built on a piece of mat board or other similar surface. You can print with ink or without - the printing process creates an embossing that's pleasant without any ink at all.

The word collagraph is made up of collage and graphic. Pieces of mat board, paper, fabric, tape, string, etc. are glued on to the cardboard plate. Areas of the cardboard may be cut and peeled away. Gesso is painted over the entire area and carborundum, glitter or sand may be added for additional texture. After the collaged materials are completely dried, several coats of varnish are sprayed over the plate, sealing it.

The nature of Collagraph as a means of creating uniquely rich and interesting printed imagery make it an exciting and versatile printmaking technique. Unlike other intaglio and relief methods, which rely on a set of one or more highly technical processes, Collagraph allows one to work directly with materials, and to explore the qualities of those materials in an extremely fluid & organic manner.

Many "liquid" materials may be painted on to the plate or applied in a liquid or semi-liquid form, often with a brush, palette knife or squeegee, as opposed to materials which are cut-out and glued down or 'collaged' onto the plate.

Students will be introduced to a variety of approaches to Collagraph Printmaking, which will include materials and supports; various methods of plate construction; basic and advanced inking techniques using both intaglio and relief methods; such as chine collé, viscosity inking, and cleaning, editioning and signing prints.

# Materials List

## Palmarin Merges

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### *Collagraph*

#### ▼ *Student must provide:*

- Good printmaking paper (Rives BFK and so much more), you may also try printing on Japanese Paper aka Washi.
- Flat objects to glue onto the Collagraph Plate – any dried and flattened plant material, textured cloth, net bag that onions come in, masking tape, anything flat that can be glued down.
- We will provide a basic color wheel for you to use - we will discuss this in class.
- Sketchbook and drawing material to work out ideas at home – 8.5 x 11 copy paper put into a manila folder is fine. There is no need to buy a sketchbook if you are not inclined to.
- We will have a basic complement of colors for you to use.

#### ▼ *Provided by your \$25 lab fee:*

Akua Kolor inks, Newsprint, Glue, Varnish, Gesso, some brushes, Rags for clean up, Paper towels – preventing messes, cleaning up, Simple green – cleaning up & Vegetable oil – for cleaning up

#### ▼ *Definitions:*

Collagraph Plate: cardboard or Matboard will be used as the matrix that we glue things to.

Open Studio: Depending on enrollment, 5 – 9 separate 3 hour sessions outside of class time available to students currently enrolled in a Print-making Class of at least 6 sessions.

# Class Objectives

## Palmarin Merges

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### *Collagraph*

#### **Class 1▼**

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- **Lecture: Introduction** – Welcome to the Land of Yes, brief history, class objectives, signing a print.
- **Discussion:** What materials to use when making a Collagraph. Show example of Print Exchange.
- **Homework:** Work out an idea and continue to build plates.
- **NOTE:** Bring your sketches & plates back to class.

#### **Class 2▼**

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- **Discussion:** Go over homework assignment. Questions and concerns? Continue building plates. Work out ideas.
- **Demo:** Setting up the press, 2 color print First color, registration & editioning
- **In Class:** Continue working on plate – gesso, varnish.

#### **Class 3▼**

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- **Discussion:** Question and Answer. Multiple Plate Project.
- **Demo:** Signing your print.
- **In Class:** Print second color! First Project due at end of class.

#### **Class 4▼**

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- **Demo:** Chine Collé.  
Print an Edition of 10 – 6 for trade with other students, 1 for instructor, 1 for Multnomah Art Center

#### **Class 5▼**

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- **In Class:** Continue work on Multiple Plate Project.

#### **Class 6▼**

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- **In Class:** Continue work on Multiple Plate Project. Projects Due at the End of Class.
- **Last day of printing** – Remember to give one print to Palmarin and to fill out your Class Evaluations!

1 Learn about the richness of Collagraph!

2 Use the following techniques in Collagraph: relief printing, intaglio printing, paper registration, chine collé,

3 Project 1 – create Collagraph print using cardboard only. 2 – 3 layers and ‘carve’ tear, scratch into surface to create textures. 2 colors maximum. Edition of 4 prints.

4 Project 2 – create an abstracted Collagraph print of a flower or plant. Focus will be on use of negative and positive space. Edition of 4 prints.

5 Project 3 – 2 plate color registration with chine collé. Create a surface on one plate and geometric shapes on the other. Edition of 4 prints.

6 Participate in the Collagraph Print Exchange.

**THEME:** Student’s choice  
(Nature, Plants, Animals, Textures, Abstract etc.)

**PAPER SIZE:** 1/6 of 22” x 30” sheet of good printmaking paper.

**IMAGE SIZE:** between 5” x 5” and 11” x 7.5”

**EDITION SIZE:** 6 prints (or as many as there are students, including instructor, in the class.)

7 Conservation – cleaning and signing your prints. One print from each project goes to your instructor.