

Mixed Media Artist Book with Gelly Prints & Transfers

October 2–23, 2020, 2:00–4:30pm, on Zoom

Instructor: Kim-Lee Kho

Student Materials List (updated Sept 10)

I will also make a little video about the materials and send the link to registered students.

Book

- paper for the actual book (suitable weight and size) eg mixed media paper such as Strathmore Vision or Canson XL – they also make watercolour pads if you want heavier, stiffer paper – recommended minimum size is 15” long pages (but if all you can get is 14”, just adjust accordingly); 24” long pages (18x24” pads) mean less assembly but harder to find
 - I will show how to make a book by assembling 2 or more pieces
- sharp craft knife, steel ruler and cutting surface (mat or could be sturdy cardboard backer)
- scoring and folding tools (could be the back of a stainless dinner knife and table/soup spoon)
- adhesive for joining multiple segments, eg: acrylic polymer medium, glue stick or PVA glue (for you experienced book artists)
- bulldog clips or (my favourite) chip clips, for clamping pages together

Gel Plate

- SIZE: recommended minimum size: 6x6” or 5x7”
- larger plates are useful but can get unwieldy on a small book, especially if you are a beginner
- BRANDS: Gel Press, Speedball and Gelli Arts (I own at least one of each brand) – price can vary greatly, so I recommend you compare pricing of different brands and different sources
- BRAYER: soft rubber 4”; or 2” size can work for a small plate (and is a handy second brayer for more experienced printmakers)

Printing

- acrylic paints – can work (a little differently) with either fluid or medium viscosity or (to a lesser extent) high viscosity – do not use “extra heavy”;
- for beginners especially I recommend medium viscosity such as Liquitex Basics or craft acrylics, but if you have something different use that – **make sure you have Titanium White**
- paper to roll waste paint onto, could be: office copy paper (bond); a sketchbook; an old book you wouldn’t mind transforming with paint
- a thinnish paper suitable for printing (or painting etc) onto and collaging into your book
- palette and palette knives to mix custom colours
- you may need: painter’s tape, pencil and eraser, brushes
- to slow drying, your choice of: Golden Open Medium (fluid); or Liquitex Slow-Dry medium; or “retarder” for acrylics; or, in a pinch, glycerin (used in cake decorating or to soften skin)

Transfers

- magazines (and books optionally) with imagery, printed on “coated” paper – they will have a soft sheen or even be glossy and a smooth fee. Very high gloss covers and thick-feeling inserts may have been laminated with plastic, which is not compatible, but we will test that during class
- laser prints or photocopies (these don’t use inks, they use “toner” and high heat) – you don’t need these for the first class, we will discuss

- optional: Bondo spreaders; available at Canadian Tire in the automotive section, they are used for spreading auto body filler; come in 3-packs (different sizes) for very little money (\$7.99?) – I highly recommend for transfers, printing and painting too
- alternative: some other spreader, not sharp, not metal, could be a plastic gift card for example

Mixed Media/Fun Stuff for Gelly Printing

- collage material (could just be the magazines and things we print but other stuff you like if you have)
- you may want one or more drawing tools, see what you have, here are some suggestions: water soluble graphite sticks/pencils, watercolour crayons, pigment pens, gel pens, paint pens (opaque white is very handy), charcoal, conté or...?
- optional: india ink or acrylic ink (don't worry about this if you're a beginner)
- FUN STUFF for gel printing – the options are wide-ranging, I will list several for you to choose from or add your own :-)
- plastic mesh
- burlap and/or cheesecloth
- eraser
- plastic combs, fork or Catalyst tools (by Princeton)
- string or yarn or even dental floss!
- bubble wrap or other textured items

Finally, clean up

- paper towel and spray bottle with water; optional: baby wipes
- hand sanitizer gel (if you can spare any!)
- optional but recommended for paint in general: Murphy's Oil Soap (*not* the spray bottle!)
- baby oil or plain mineral oil