

Outsider Art: Collage as Self-Expression

Ruby Red Workshop

October 5, 2024

Saturday, 10:00am-2:00pm

Educator: Teresa Cribelli, ctcribelli@gmail.com

Pricing:

Museum Friends: \$95 / Member: \$100 / Student: \$100 / Non-member: \$110

**Price includes a \$30 Studio Fee for all materials provided.*

Class Description:

Whether using paper or fabric, collage has long been practiced by women, people of color, and those without access to a formal art education. In this class, we will examine the history of collage as an outsider art – how women and people of color used material at hand (paper and fabric scraps, for example) to create visual expressions that resonate powerfully today. Students will be asked to channel the spirit of these artists (many of whom remain unidentified) in creating their own works of art from the materials of daily life. The instructor will bring her expertise in history and collage to help students explore this vibrant and accessible art form.

What to Expect:

This class begins with a short presentation of the history of collage as an outsider art, and will include a visit to the Art of the Ancient Americas gallery for inspiration. Students will be asked to find three elements from pieces in the collection to inspire their collage composition. We will examine Enrique Chagoya's *Borders of the Spirit* in the Art of the Ancient Americas gallery as a way to consider how collage is a powerful medium for exploring identity.

Class Cancellation Policy:

If a class or workshop needs to be cancelled due to inclement weather or teacher illness, a “make-up” day will be scheduled on a FRIDAY or SATURDAY as the educator’s schedule allows.

Materials:

All materials will be provided for this workshop and are included in the Studio Fee of \$30.

Educator:

Teresa Cribelli started her art career in the archive; inspired by the historical documents she used in her academic research in Brazil, she became interested in the ways that collage can bring the past and the present together. While living in Brazil she was also inspired by the wheat paste street art of Rio de Janeiro. Part of Rio’s vibrant street art culture, wheat paste posters (graphic art printed on paper and pasted to walls) became a type of open-air collective collage she watched for on her daily commute. Inspired by the outsider artists who make street art, she began collecting and then experimenting with vintage papers to make her own collages. Bringing her training as a historian to her practice (she taught Latin American History at the University of Alabama for 11 years) Teresa uses her small-scale analog

collages to make visual statements about power, gender, and the environment told through the lens of history. Her work has been shown at Kolaj Fest in New Orleans and Paperworkers Local in Birmingham, Alabama among other venues. Her pieces are held in private collections and in the Doug and Laurie Kanyer Art Collection. Street art pieces based on her collages can be seen in Tuscaloosa and Birmingham, Alabama; Denver, Colorado; Barcelona, Spain; and São Luís, Brazil.

Ruby Room Policies

CLEANUP:

Please remove all artworks from the classroom at the end of each class. If wet painting or in-progress artworks need to be stored in the classroom, there is limited storage in the equipment closet. Students will also need to take home all their own materials after each class. Make sure that art supplies and equipment belonging to the DAM are put back in the appropriate locations. Sponges and cleaning solution are provided in the classroom for cleanup.

CLASSROOM ACCESS

Students will have access to the classroom only during scheduled class hours and open studio hours. Please contact the Manager of Creative and Public Engagement, Sarah Rockett, if you need to arrange entrance to the Ruby Room outside of those hours – srockett@denverartmuseum.org.

MATERIAL USAGE

Approved Processes & Materials

Please ask if you are unsure about using a material in the workshop.

- All materials that are non-toxic and non-flammable
- Chalk/charcoal/compressed powder-based drawing materials
- Loose powder-based drawing/painting materials – i.e. powdered graphite, powdered pigment
- Loose powder-based 3D materials – i.e. plaster, alginate
- Clay – air drying only
- Oil paints & oil medium
- Adhesives
- Odorless mineral spirits – in small amounts
- Acetone – in small amounts
- Hot plates – for encaustic or use w/ wax-based process
- Hot glue & hot glue guns

Restricted Processes & Materials

- Aerosols
 - No spray paint onsite
 - Fixatives and finishing sprays can be used outside with the use of a drop cloth.
- Saws/Wood cutting
- Organic materials
- Any materials that off-gas or produce a pungent smell will require prior approval.

Flammable Materials

STORAGE: Any flammable materials left in the classroom must be stored in the flammable materials cabinet when not in use. This includes all aerosol products, mineral spirits, acetone, etc.

DISPOSAL: Please use the flammables disposal container to dispose of all flammable materials or rags, paper towels, etc. that have been saturated with flammable materials. Do not put these items in the regular trash can or down the sink. This includes materials such as mineral spirits, acetone, paint thinner, oil paint, etc.

Disposal of Viscous Materials

- **Paint:** Scrape or wipe large amounts of paint into the trash can. Remaining paint may be washed down the sink. Make sure that paint does not sit and dry on the bottom of the sink. Use sponges to wash out the sink, and run water for 1-2 minutes after paint disposal.
- **Plaster:** Dispose of wet plaster into the trash can. Leave container to dry, and crack remaining plaster into the trash once it is dry. Hands and tools used for plaster may be washed in the sink with water running 1-2 minutes after washing.
- **Clay:** Remove wet/dry clay from hands and tools as much as possible before washing in sink. Run water in sink for 1-2 minutes following washing.

SAFETY:

Teachers and students are responsible for practicing safe work habits at all times, as improper use of tools could cause injury. Please work intelligently, safely, and follow all safety guidelines.

- Teachers and students are only to use equipment and tools that they either already know how to use, or have been instructed how to use. If you have a question about how to operate any equipment, please ask!
- Work smart, pace yourself, and be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Safety glasses, safety goggles, nitrile gloves, and dust masks are available upon request.