

Collage: Modern & Contemporary Mixed Media

Ruby Red Workshop
Saturday, April 19th, 2025
10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Educator: Robin Whatley, robinwhatley1@gmail.com

Pricing:

Museum Friend: \$95 / Member: \$100 / Student: \$100 / Non-Member: \$110
**Price includes a \$30 Studio Fee for all materials provided.*

Class Description:

In this one workshop, students will explore the art of collage while taking direct inspiration from the Modern and Contemporary Art collection. Using provided collage making materials, students will be challenged to create an original collage or mixed media piece incorporating a photocopied image from the collection. This class is open to all abilities.

What to Expect:

At the start of class, we will tour the Modern and Contemporary galleries for ideas and inspiration. Then students will choose one of the three select photocopied images from the collection to begin constructing a collage. While using as much or as little of the image, students will embellish their piece with the provided collage making supplies (i.e. tissue paper, magazine, text and found images). Making more than one piece is encouraged, but also folders will be provided if students wish to work further on it at home.

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 SATURDAY as the educator’s schedule allows.

Materials:

All materials will be provided for students and are included in the price for this workshop.

Educator:

Robin Whatley is a mixed media collage artist, educator, and curator based in Denver CO. With a background in arts administration, she holds a BFA with a concentration in painting from Colorado State University, and studied at the Santa Chiara Italtart in Castiglione Fiorentino, Italy. Her work examines old print ads like an archeological artifact of our ancestors. The nameless figures inked into aged pulp of 1960’s magazines are carefully rescued from the dehumanizing old Madison Ave world and safely released into a vivid and futuristic landscape. These seamlessly blended vintage paper cut-outs and water-based paintings transport the viewer into surreal and otherworldly landscapes where humanity and identity are explored beyond consumerism. Robin’s work has been included in numerous group and solo exhibitions around the US including Arizona, Colorado, Rhode Island, Florida and Washington. Her work has been

published with Kolaj Magazine, a world art magazine on contemporary collage, and The Curator's Salon Magazine in London UK.

<https://www.robinwhatley.com/>

Ruby Room Policies

Cleanup:

Please remove all artworks from the classroom at the end of each class. If wet paintings 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

- 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

Please ask if you are unsure about using certain materials in the workshop.

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.