



## Abstract Portraits in Collage

Discuss abstraction in art, where color, shape, line and form work together to create a unique composition that departs from reality.

Talk about portraiture throughout Art History.

Introduce the idea of *pareidolia*, where the mind perceives meaningful patterns or images from random data, i.e. seeing faces or figures in rock faces.

Demonstrate willingness to create and not dictate specific outcomes, embrace the spontaneity in the creative process!

- **BASIC MATERIALS FOR COLLAGE (USED BY MEININGER ART SUPPLY)**

- Mounting board – 8”X10” **Savage TruBlack Presentation Mount Board** - sold pre-cut
- Previously marbled paper, see **Suminagashi/Japanese Paper Marbling lesson plan** (optional)
- Maps, newspaper flyers, old magazines, decorative or other printed paper
- Solid color cardstock or construction paper – **Canford** colored paper (150gsm/100lbs)
- Glue stick – **UHU** glue stick
- Scissors or **X-ACTO** knife, cutting surface – can also tear paper

- **MESS QUOTIENT = LOW**

- Paper scraps will accumulate from cutting shapes from paper
- Gluing surface may become sticky

- **ACCESSORIES (OPTIONAL BUT FUN!)**

- Colored pencils, pens or markers for final details & embellishments

- **PROCESS**

1. Decide on a gesture for your portrait. Will you include legs, torso, hands? What emotion or mood do you want conveyed through facial expressions? Will your face be straight forward or in profile?
2. Choose one sheet of colored card stock or construction paper
3. Take your marbled paper and begin to look for shapes or lines that resemble parts of a figure or facial features. Do this with your other paper selections
4. Cut out shapes you would like to use in your artwork
5. Begin to arrange cut out pieces on the mounting board
6. When you have a majority of the first layer arranged how you like, glue and tack paper in place
7. Continue looking at your paper material for additional shapes, lines, colors, and forms you would like to add to your composition
8. **Done!**
  - Sign your artwork
  - Discuss the finished portraits as a group