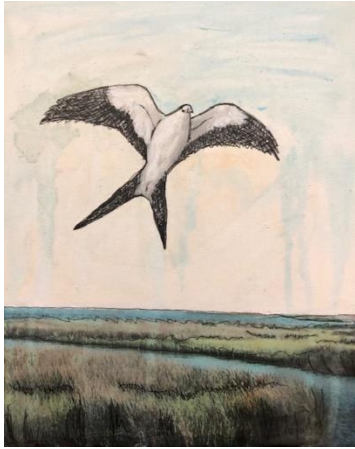


Image Transfer



Introduction

An image transfer is the act of transferring an image from one source to another. Artists frequently create with reference images, and there are numerous ways to incorporate existing imagery directly into one's work. Utilizing a transfer technique can be an inspiration for art making, as well as having direct applications in beginning a project.

This exercise will introduce a basic image transfer technique. A high contrast photocopy is transferred onto a canvas panel using gel medium, which is essentially a colorless acrylic paint that can be used as an adhesive or sealant. Photocopies are created with toner and utilize a heat process to set the toner. Instead of absorbing into the fibers of the paper, toner sets on top allowing it to release once coated in medium.

Mindful Reflection

As you select your image for this transfer project, slow down and take the time to notice what images you're most drawn to. Get curious about the specific qualities you find most attractive. What is it you appreciate about the image...? The colors? The object itself? The style of the image? Or perhaps a constellation of factors? As you get more fully in touch with this sense of appreciation for your image, see if you can savor this feeling of goodness and satisfaction as you move through the artmaking process, much like you would savor a fine meal. We call this practice *savoring the good* and it can enhance our neurochemistry and provide us with a sense of greater wellbeing.

Materials

Photocopies of found images
Matte gel medium
Paint brush
8x10 canvas panel

Directions

When transferring images with gel medium, here are a few things to consider:

- High contrast images work best for all image transfers, both color and black and white.
- Laser prints and photocopies are recommended as they utilize toner which makes a cleaner transfer.
- Smooth, porous surfaces receive transfers best.
- Direct gel medium transfers reverse the image, so be sure to mirror copy if it includes text.



1. Using a laser printer or photocopier, print an inspirational image to transfer.
2. Apply a generous coat of gel medium to the canvas panel with brush.
3. Place photocopy face down on the gel and smooth gently with brayer to adhere.
4. Allow gel to dry.
5. Dampen the back of the photocopy with water. Use your fingers or a small sponge in a circular motion to remove the paper leaving the transferred image.
6. Utilize your favorite art supplies to complete the piece.