

## Solar Plate Printmaking Supply List – Instructor: Carol Strause FitzSimonds

Description: Students will experiment with various methods to develop and print polymer gel plates (Solarplates) as relief or intaglio plates or both. Open to all levels. A \$15 Studio Materials Fee must be paid to instructor for etching inks, ink modifiers and other supplies such as tarlatan.

### **Class Materials List:**

1. Some form of [notebook and pen](#). You will need to take notes in my class and have a place to keep the handouts I will give you.
2. [A drawing or drawings](#): I suggest having something for the first class so you can get started making a plate right away. Do your drawings on Canson Vidalon Translucent Vellum with 2B-8B pencils or use Grafix Dura-lar wet medium film for black watercolor or black ink paintings. You can then use these drawings directly to make your plates.

Remember plates are 6x8 or 8x10 inches so your drawings need to fit within these sizes. You buy your plates directly from the instructor each class as I get the best price by buying in bulk. You can use black India ink (lines, washes), tusche, Conte' or any type of crayon, opaque paint pens, and opaque markers to make your drawings. I highly stress taking the time to plan your compositions and do a wonderful dark sketch/drawing. Create an image that you love and want to develop in multiple ways. Images can be linear or tonal or combination of both.

[Or you can use your own photographs](#). You will need to send 2 or 3 to me at ([fitzsimjc@cox.net](mailto:fitzsimjc@cox.net)) so I can manipulate and print on special transparency film (better than anything at Kinko's or Staples). I charge \$3 - \$4 per film depending on density/amount of ink. You can send photos directly from smart phone or use a computer.

4. [Printmaking paper](#): at least 1-2 sheets of printmaking paper. Somerset smooth or textured, Arches Cover, Rives BFK, or Revere - these are good quality papers for printing and come in several colors. Can purchase at Blick or RISD store. I will review how to tell front/back of paper and direction of grain so you can mark your paper in pencil on the back with your last name and type of paper in each corner and indicate direction of grain.
5. [1 roll of VIVA or Bounty paper towel](#)
6. [Apron or old shirt](#)...some type of cover up()
7. [A few different size brushes](#) – small to 1/4" both oil bristle and smooth (cheap craft brushes are fine)

[Optional](#) – if you have these already - please bring but do not go out and buy. We have enough of these in the studio for everyone. If you want to mix/use lots of colors in one print, you may want your own eventually.

1. [Palette knife or flexible spatula for working etching ink](#)
2. [Rubber Brayers](#) – come in different sizes
3. [Latex rubber gloves](#)
4. [Cosmetic pointed Q-tips](#)

**I'll end with asking each of you to please, please be prompt for every class!** I try to demo a technique or talk about something related to what we've been doing at the start of each class. Look forward to working with each of you.... Carol