

Materials and Meaning, a Mixed Media Workshop

A workshop with *Jane Davies*

Whether you are working in representational or abstract imagery, your choice of materials informs the ultimate expression of your work. Why do you choose collage over paint for a particular element of a piece? What does stitching add? What associations do we make with fabric rather than paper? In this workshop we will paint, draw, collage, and stitch on paper, canvas, and cardboard, while examining the expressive capacities of each material. You may learn some new techniques, but, more importantly, you will gain a greater sensitivity to the aesthetic choices available to you.

This workshop is for intermediate to advanced students. Whether you are a fiber artist with a little painting experience, or an experienced painter with little or no stitching experience, this course is for you.

Supply List

- Paper: Bristol or smooth printmaking or watercolor paper. Bring enough for a dozen small (10"x10" or similar) studies. Larger sizes if you want to work larger.
- Canvas: UNSTRETCHED and un-primed cotton canvas, 8 oz is fine, 1 yard. You can substitute a cotton canvas dropcloth
- Cardboard: save a couple of shipping boxes, cut to no larger than 18"x18", smaller if you like
- Threads : hand-stitching threads such as Sashiko thread, waxed linen, embroidery floss, pearle cotton, etc. I will bring some to share as well.
- Needles for hand-stitching (optional)
- Acrylic Paint: an 8 oz bottle of Blick Matte Acrylics white, NOT Blyckrilic, or something similar. Plus all of your acrylic colors, fluid and/or heavy body or tube paints.
- Matte Medium: for extending your paints AND for collage
- Glazing liquid or retarder gel (optional)
- White glue (not washable) or PVA
- Brushes, palette knives, and any other painting tools
- Palette (I use a disposable pad-of-paper style, but bring what you are comfortable with)

- Collage papers: include hand painted papers (SOLID COLORS, and patterns if you want, on OPAQUE paper), found papers, found images, photocopies of your artwork. Note: transparent papers such as tissue and deli paper have limited use.
- Scissors
- Drawing media: Caran d'Ache NeoColor II crayons, paint markers + pens, pencils, oil pastels, graphite, pencils, etc. Of your choice.
- Craft knife, such as X-acto

I will provide:

- Newsprint
- Cheap drawing paper
- Threads to share
- Needles
- Sand paper
- Pearls of wisdom and pearls of stupidity