

O-riginal Art Activities: Monochromatic Collage Inspired by Betsy Gosling



Betsy Gosling, Spiced Vodka, 2020, Photogram, Courtesy of the artist

Betsy Gosling grew up in Michigan. She visited New Orleans during the World's Fair and never left (except after hurricane Katrina for several months). The daughter of a geographer and an Asian art historian, travel and photography are in her genes. After hurricane Katrina, she found more time to devote to her love of photography.

Create a monochromatic collage using found objects in this O-riginal Art Activity inspired by Betsy Gosling.

SEE BETSY GOSLING'S SPICED VODKA IN

PHOTONOLA: CURRENTS 2020, HIGHLIGHTING THE WORK OF NEW ORLEANS PHOTO ALLIANCE MEMBERS AT THE OGDEN MUSEUM.

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Supplies

Scissors, Color Paper, Glue Stick, Found Object, Pencil

Instructions

Step 1: Look at Betsy Gosling's artwork, *Spiced Vodka*. What do you notice about the color scheme of the artwork? What color is the background? What color are the subjects in the photo? What do you notice about the subjects in the photo? Do the subjects look like something you see in real life?

Step 2: Take a walk in your neighborhood or explore your backyard. Look for objects to use in your artwork. Maybe you can find flowers, leaves or other objects. If you're not able to take a walk or go outside, search your home. Be sure to ask your parent or guardian permission to use the **found objects.**

Step 3: Notice in Gosling's photo that the background and subject colors are different shades of the same color, **monochromatic**. Decide what color you want your artwork to be. Will your background be a darker color and subject be lighter or vice versa?

Step 4: Place your objects on the color paper that you want your subjects to be. Use a pencil to trace around the objects. Use scissors to cut out the drawings from the color paper.

Step 5: What color paper will you use for your background? Once you have cut out the drawings, think about the **composition** of your **collage**. Take some time to arrange the images on the background paper.

Step 6: Once you have decided on an arrangement use a glue stick to glue the pieces in place.

Vocabulary

Collage - a technique using cut or torn fabric or paper and glue

Found Object - a thing that someone else has given or thrown away that is often repurposed by artists

Composition - is the arrangement or placement of visual elements in a piece of artwork

Monochromatic – artwork containing or using only one color





