

The Joy of Gel Printing with Ursula Harris

Class Dates

Thursdays May 14, 21, 28 June 4, 11,18, July 2 (I'm not available May 7 and June 25)

7 week course.

CLASS OUTLINE

No previous experience is necessary, but I recommend you look at some YouTubes to get a feel for gel printing. It is important you have the correct basic materials.

In the first lesson I will go into detail about the materials, why some are better than others, how they differ and what can be achieved. I'll have examples on display that include book covers, pages for journals and collage papers.

Essential materials to bring

Gel plate - Preferably a commercial plate, but a sturdy homemade plate will work. Any size, A4 is ideal.

Fluid acrylic paints - e.g. Jo Sonja, Amsterdam Standard Series, Liquitex Basics, Golden Fluid Acrylic, Matisse Fluid. Note these are fluid paints, not heavy bodied paints.

A stack of A4 White paper - options. You only need one type initially, which you may stick with or swap.

- Regular photocopier paper will work, but heavier 120 gsm copy paper is ideal because you can produce high-quality prints without tearing, e.g. J.Burrows Premium 120gsm A4 Digital Copy Paper 250 Sheets from Officeworks
- Unwaxed deli paper (usually lacking high-heat resistance. Baking paper is used for lining trays, whereas deli paper is typically for picking up, storing, or serving food.)
- Japanese rice paper e.g. Yasumoto sketch rice paper
- 180-200 gsm Mixed Media paper
- Watercolor paper
- NO glossy or photo paper

Something under your gel printing plate that is smooth, flat and acts as a non-porous barrier such as a Teflon sheet, baking tray, or glass surface.

Soft rubber brayer - any size. Ideally something like the X-Press It 4" Premium Brayer
Plastic mat to protect the table

Apron

Stencils - any size

A roll of baking paper (parchment paper. It is heat-resistant and silicone-coated for oven use. Easy to get at the supermarket.

Masking tape

A rag like a chux that leaves a clear surface, i.e. no bits of cotton

Baby oil, baby wipes, water wipes or hand sanitiser to clean your plate.

Optional materials to bring

Printing blocks

Masks - These can be made in class

Netted bag oranges are sold in

Netted bag onions are sold in

Bubble wrap

Rubber bands

Perm comb or similar for scraping paint on the plate

Leaves or other vegetation that isn't sharp

Other materials that can leave an impression, keys, feathers, etc, but nothing sharp that could damage your plate.

EXAMPLE IMAGES

