



Connecting

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Summary

1. Big Idea and/or Question(s): **Connecting: Finding inspiration by choosing a subject matter that you are interested or connected to. What is the main idea that is represented in your artwork? What is the link between you and your art, how does it relate to you personally?**
2. Medium(s): **Relief printmaking: How to create your own hand-made stamps: drawing images onto carving block, hand-carving the block, cutting out individual stamps, hand-printing on paper.**
3. Grade Levels: **9th-12th grade**
4. Time Breakdown: **Approx. 45 min lesson: 10 min video, 10 min discussion, 20 min activity, 5 min wrap**



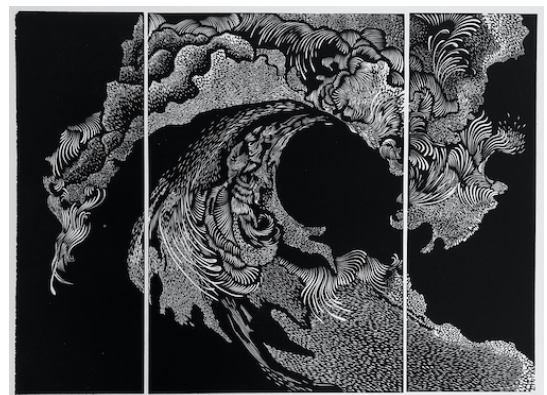
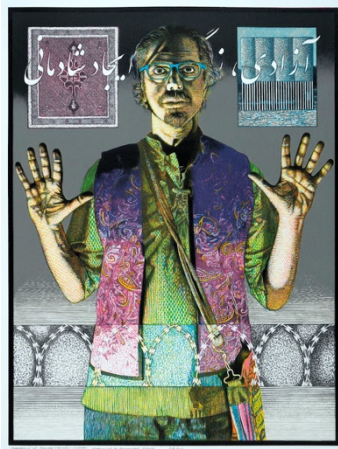
Materials*

1. Speedball speedy carve block (4"x6" pink block)
2. 2B pencil
3. Sharpie twin-tip marker (black)
4. X-Acto knife
5. Speedball linoleum cutters (lino set no. 1)
6. Ranger archival ink pad (jet black)
7. Scratch-Art subi block printing paper (9"x12" white 100/pack or assorted colors 40/pack)
8. Canson XL bristol pad (smooth 9"x12" pad of 25 sheets)
9. Tsukineko all-purpose stamp cleaner – 2 oz (optional)

*All materials are available to purchase from Blick at www.blickstudio.com.

Video

- a. **Introduction:** I was born in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Before receiving a BFA from Oklahoma State, I began my art education at the Pacific Northwest College of Art in Portland, Oregon. I am a mixed media artist combining drawing, carving and painting in my work.
- b. **Present a Big Idea and/or ask an Essential Question:** Connecting through printmaking—ways to approach sketching and design ideas that connect to you personally. What is the main idea that is represented in your artwork? What is the link between you and your art, how does it relate to you personally?
- c. **Show an Artwork that Relates to the Idea/Question:** In the video, I explain how I have explored this topic in my artwork by showing examples of relief printmaking. I present another example Oklahoma artist: Katherine Liontas-Warren, Professor of Art at Cameron University.
- d. **Assign an Activity to Investigate the Idea/Question:** Demo on hand-made stamps: drawing images onto carving block, hand-carving the block, cutting out individual stamps, hand-printing on paper. I talk about how I choose images that have meant something to me in my life, and I would encourage students to do the same.
- e. **Wrap-Up:** Think about the conceptual question, how can you represent who you are through an accumulation of different images? Consider a technical question, how might you adapt this activity to printing with different colors in multiple layers?



Left to right: Michelle Himes-McCrory, *Get Around To It*, relief print with colored pencil, 13"x13", 2020; Mark Sisson, *Portrait of Pouya Jahanshahi: Yearning to Breathe Free*, linocut, woodcut, lithograph, 22"x15", 2019; Katherine Liontas-Warren, *Enchanted Dance*, linocut, 24"x18"