

# SILK SCREEN PRINTING WEEKEND WORKSHOP

Nancy McIntyre at The Art League, Alexandria, VA

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## **Saturday Morning:**

Brief history of silkscreen medium and examples of its possibilities.

How to make a cut stencil.

Three-point registration.

How to print.

How to make colors fade together, to print multiple colors from one stencil.

## **Saturday Afternoon:**

How to make a painted stencil, including possible variations of crayon drawing and the use of resist.

How to control transparency of ink, as you print a second layer overlapping the first.

How to remove a stencil and reclaim the screen; using the power washer.

**Preparation for Sunday:** A photo stencil can be made from any photograph or artwork Xeroxed or computer-printed onto transparent film. High-contrast black-and-white images are most successful; areas of gray can be troublesome. Especially if using Photoshop or other graphic-design program on a computer, please refer to pages 9-18 of the handbook.

You may also create a transparency by drawing or painting directly onto copier film or wet-media acetate with black marker or ink, or by making an opaque collage, or using a rectangle of heavy or black paper. (If you cut a rectangle the same dimensions as your photo image, and expose them both, on different parts of the same screen, it will allow you to print a separate background layer, and/or add a new color to certain areas of your print without cleaning the photostencil off your screen.)

We can use the copier just outside the classroom to make 8 1/2 x 11" transparencies of any image on paper. If your image is on computer or phone, it can't be printed on our copier, but you can take transparent copier film from the classroom to print elsewhere. We have 11 x 17" laser/copier film, and 8 1/2 x 11" film either inkjet or laser, depending on the printer. There is room on your screen for more than one transparency.

## **Sunday:**

How to make a photo stencil.

The principles of planning multi-stencil prints.

Where to get supplies.

Hints on home set-up for those interested.

The introductory weekend workshop covers the material presented in the first four classes of my regular-semester course, the remainder of that course taken up by individual projects of the students' choice. Completion of this workshop should give you the background to explore the medium on your own, or at open studio sessions on Mondays from 4-7:00, or with me at a later workshop or regular-semester course, where you can pursue independent projects in place of the introductory work.