

# Monoprinting

Lesson 4 - 3/15/2024





# Printmaking

an art process based on transferring an image from a surface (block, plate, etc.) onto another surface (usually paper or fabric)

# Printmaking Methods

## Relief

- Woodcut, linocut

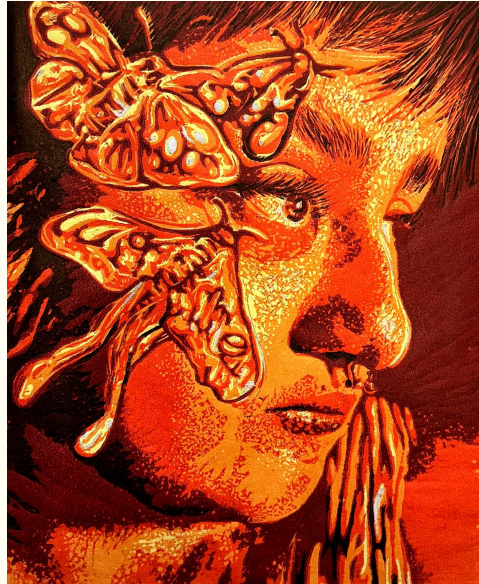
## Intaglio

- Etching, drypoint, engraving, etc.

## Screenprinting

## Lithography

Ms. Isa's woodcut  
prints from 2024



The page features decorative geometric shapes in the corners, consisting of various colored triangles (yellow, red, blue, pink, orange) arranged in a pattern that suggests a larger geometric design.

# Vocabulary

Monoprint

Additive method

Subtractive method

Brayer

Print edition

E/V – Edition  
Variable (or Variée)

# Vocabulary

## Monoprint

a form of printmaking where the original image from the block can only be printed once (instead of multiple times, like most forms of printmaking)

## Brayer

a hand-tool used in printmaking to apply ink

## Additive method

adding material to create an artwork

**Example:** adding more and more LEGO bricks to create a sculpture

## Print edition

a series of identical prints made from a printing surface

## Subtractive method

taking away material to create an artwork

**Example:** carving away stone to create a sculpture

## E/V – Edition

## Variable (or Variée)

a series of prints made from the same printing surface that have individual unique embellishments

# Marc Chagall



TEMPLE ET HISTOIRE DE BACCHUS (1961)



Le rendez-vous (1983)

# SWOON



Swimming Cities of Switchback Sea (2008)

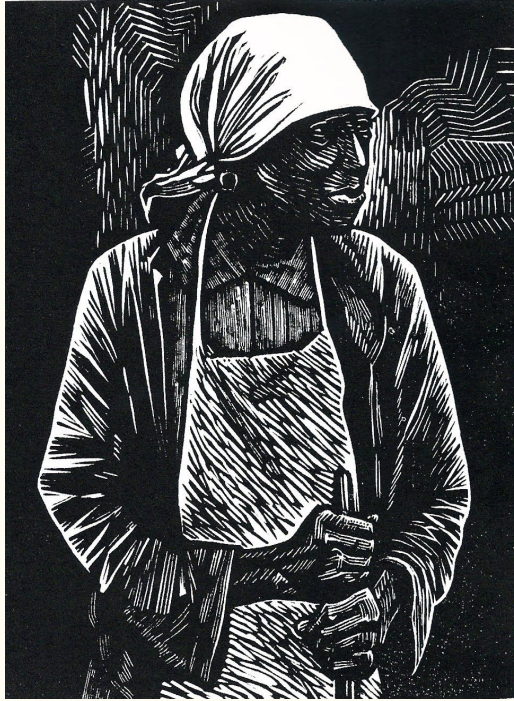
Images courtesy of Tod Seelie.







# Elizabeth Catlett




Survivor (1983)



Harriet (1975)



Sharecropper (1952)

The slide features four decorative geometric patterns in the corners. Each pattern consists of a central square surrounded by four triangles pointing towards it, all within a larger square frame. The top-left pattern has a light blue center and yellow, blue, and green triangles. The top-right pattern has a light blue center and red, blue, and yellow triangles. The bottom-left pattern has a yellow center and red, blue, and green triangles. The bottom-right pattern has a dark blue center and green, blue, and red triangles.

# Today, we will be creating monoprints

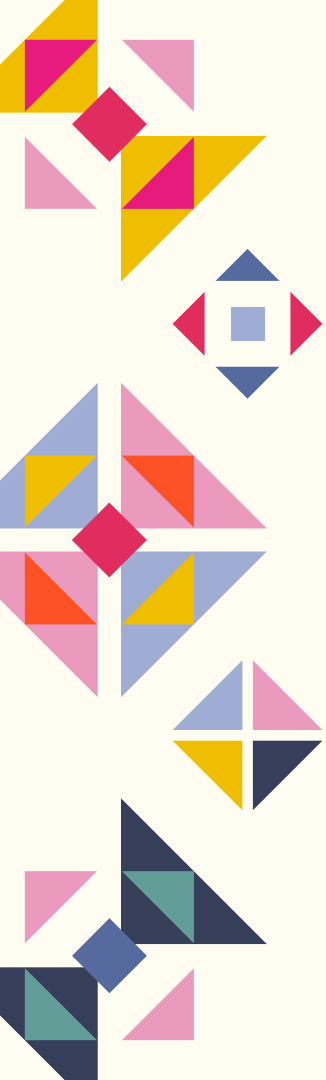
Let's walk through the  
process together...

**YOUR END GOAL** is to create a 2×2 arrangement of monoprints that go together as a *series*.

You can create more than 4, but not less!

Your prints can have multiple layers and colors.

**These will not be perfect. Embrace the imperfections of the medium and have fun experimenting!**



# Just a couple of reminders...

## Work quickly!

The **ink will dry pretty fast**, so keep things moving! Once you've added some fun textures, print and move on!

## Let layers dry!

Before printing a second layer on top of a fresh print, work on a completely different print for a while to give your first one time to dry. This will help you avoid accidentally mixing/smudging your colors!

## These will not be perfect!

Printmaking can be unpredictable because of how many variables are involved (ink drying time, amount of ink, paper type, etc.). Instead of aiming for perfection, try to keep in mind that **learning happens through experimentation!** Play around with colors and textures, and see how they work together by layering them.



# Let's reflect!

**Take a look at everyone's prints...**

What do you see?

What stood out to you?

When you were working on your prints, what challenges did you work through?

What aspects of the process frustrated you?

How did letting go of perfectionism make you feel?



# Thank you!

Make sure you have all of  
your belongings before  
heading out!

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