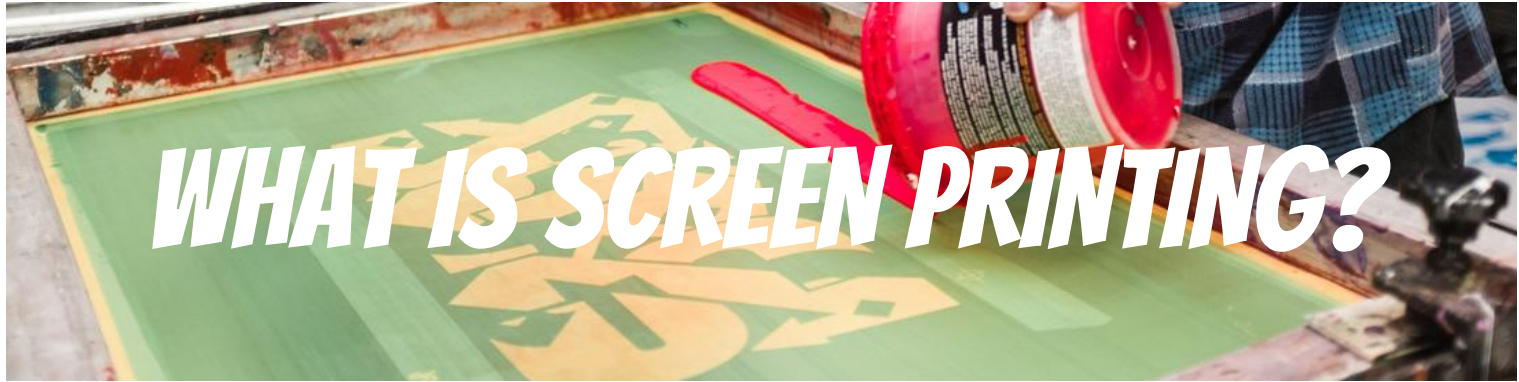


# ***SCREEN PRINTING***





Mathias Valdez, a printmaker from Pueblo Creative Corridor, Colorado Certified.

# PROJECT DETAILS

## Collaborative printmaking: Geometric Abstraction

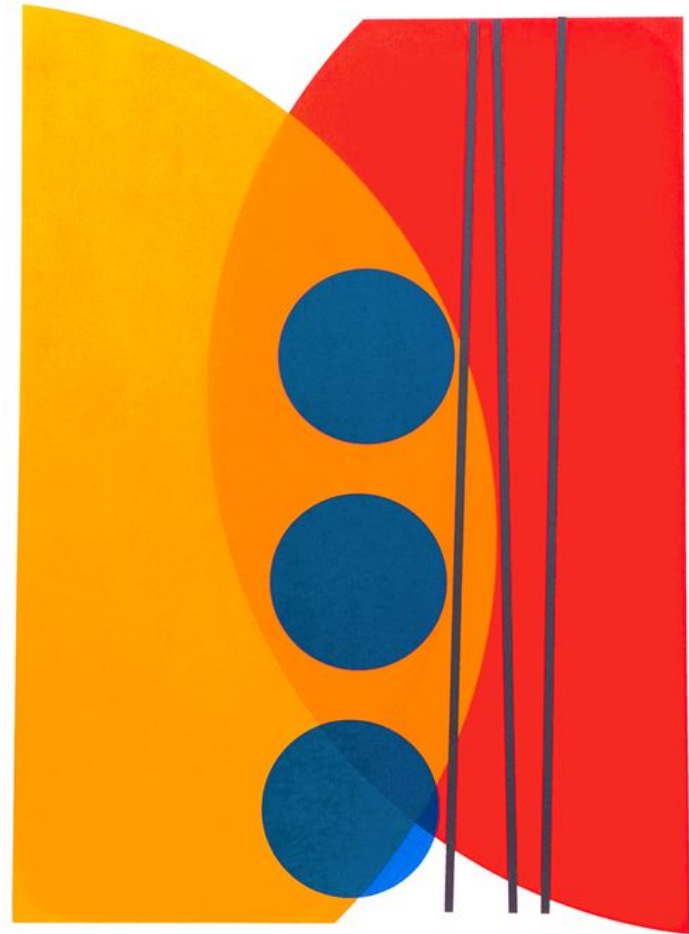
Working in **groups of 3** you will collaborate to make screen prints based from abstract collages.

### Process:

- Each group member choose a colour and cuts shapes from paper
- The group arranges shapes into 3 compositions with input from each group member
- The group refines down to 1 final composition
- Separate colours to separate sheets
- Create stencils
- Print edition with each group member
- Sign and number

### Learning intentions:

- Explore how artist interpret themes through abstraction and use materials
- Conceptualise and plan a collaborative artwork
- Experiment with materials and techniques used in screen printing



Amy Laynon

## ***WHAT IS GEOMETRIC?***

*A branch of mathematics that deals with points, lines, angles, surfaces, and solids or art based on simple geometric shapes (as straight lines, circles, or squares)*

*Mathematics? Shapes? **How does this relate to Elements & Principles?***

## ***WHAT IS ABSTRACTION?***

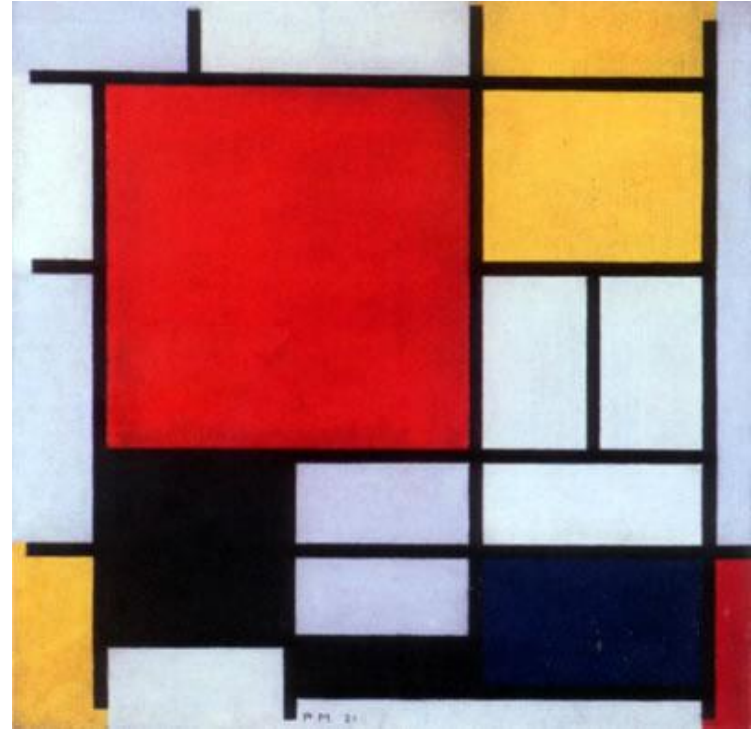
*Art that does not attempt to represent external reality, but rather seeks to achieve its effect using shapes, colours, and textures.*

*What does this mean? **How can we describe this using Elements & Principles?***

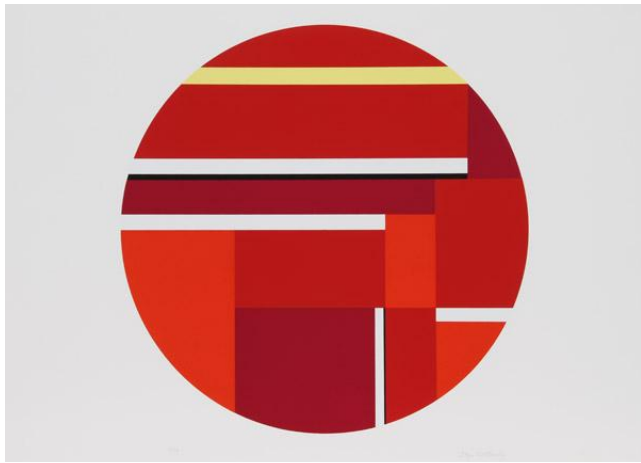
# **ART MOVEMENT: GEOMETRIC ABSTRACTION** Early 20th century painting & drawing



Emma Kunz (Switzerland. 1892-1963)  
Drawing number 1, n.d. Pencil on paper



Piet Mondrian (The Netherlands. 1872-1944)  
Composition with Large Red Plane, Yellow, Black,  
Gray, and Blue, 1921. Oil on canvas



Ilya Bolotowsky



Chris Drummond



Fanny Sanín



Kate banazi



Kirra Jamison





# SCREEN PRINTING: THE PROCESS

## SETUP

- 1) Have lots of rags ready to keep hands clean
- 2) Make sure to get all equipment ready before you start printing (individual spoons for each colour).
- 3) Keep clean paper away from dirty print area

## EQUIPMENT

Pencil and Pens - two different colours  
Scissors/scalpel  
Masking tape  
Gluestick

A3 sized printing screen  
3 paint colours  
Squeegee  
Spoon or similar  
Paper towel for cleaning spills  
Rubber gloves

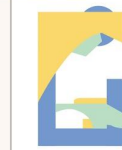
Coloured A4 sheets of paper  
Tracing paper  
A3 paper (200 gsm)  
A0 paper (any kind)



## WHAT IS A SQUEEGEE

Squeegee is a piece of rubber with a handle used to squeeze the ink through the screen.

## STEP 3 REGISTRATION PTS

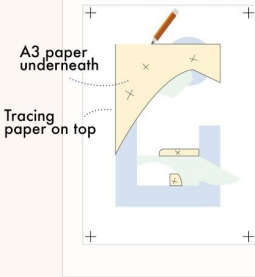


Take a photo of the page as a reference and stick the coloured paper down.

Create registration points that are 1cm x 1cm out from the corner of A3 page.

**REGISTRATION POINTS:**  
We need these so we can return our artwork to the same spot every time we print.

## STEP 4 MARKING & TRACING



Overlay tracing paper onto artwork and trace over the registration marks in pencil.

Trace over the outlines of the shapes for just one colour.

Mark these shapes with 'X'.

Repeat STEP 4 for all colours, ready for cutting out (step 5).

**TIP:** So if you have 3 colours on your artwork, you should have 3 stencils from which to screen print.

## SECTION 1: PREPARING ARTWORK

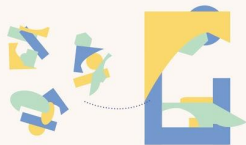
### STEP 1 CUTOUT



Individually, cut shapes from coloured paper and collage these onto an A3 sheet.

Consider geometric vs organic shapes.

### STEP 2 COLLABORATE TO MAKE ONE ARTWORK

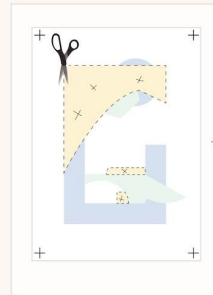


Groups must combine their artworks, using at least one shape from each students work to form just one A3 artwork.

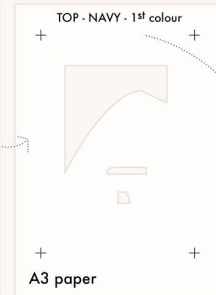
To do this, groups may want to consider the below questions when reviewing each others work...

- Which intersections are working well?
- What proportion might you want to create for your final artwork?
- What style and/or shapes do you want to go with - geometric vs. organic?
- How might you create a balanced combination of geometric and organic shapes.

## STEP 5 CUT OUT STENCIL



Before cutout



A3 paper

Stencil complete

Cut out 'X' areas with scissors.

Issue with a tear? Use masking tape to reconnect any breaks.

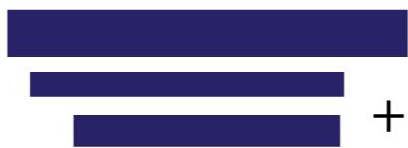
Label the order of the colours at the top of your page (this reminds you about the direction of the print as well as the order of printed colours).

**TIP:**  
Overlapping areas of stencil will produce mixed colour on paper. Consider this when designing the order of your layers.

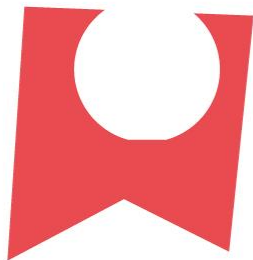
# COLOUR SEPARATION EXPLAINED

Screen printing ink is applied to the paper in a very thin layer making it quite transparent. If one colour is printed on top of another, the top colour will let through pigment of the ink below and 'mix' on the page. When separating a design into individual layers decisions must be made about where the inks will mix when the shapes overlap. To keep the top colour, that area must be cut from the layer below so it prints directly on the paper and not on top of the other colour.

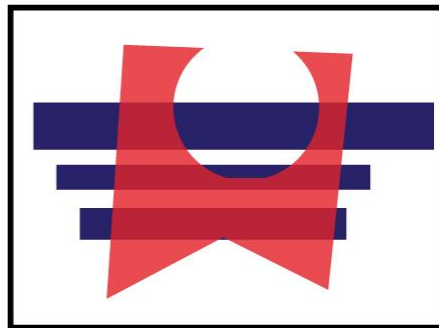
## STENCILS



+



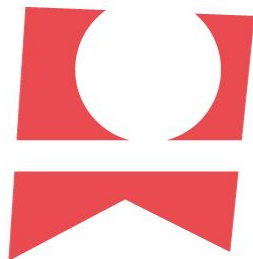
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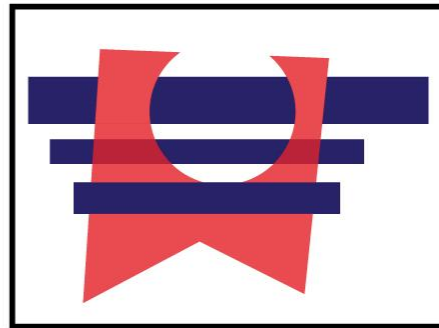
## SEPARATED STENCILS



+



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## PAPER COLLAGE



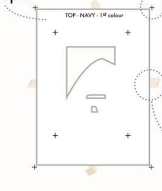
# SCREEN PRINTING: THE PROCESS

## SECTION 2:

## PRINTING

### STEP 6 ATTACHING PAPER TO SCREEN

A3 paper



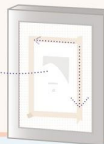
Lay your artwork onto an A0 piece of paper and mark in registration points where the A3 paper ends (do all 4 corners).

With your stencil facing up on the A0 paper, place a small amount of tape on each side, sticky side facing upwards.

Place A3 Screen directly on top and press masking tape to screen.

Turn the screen over and tape all lengths of your stencil.

Place screen back onto A0 paper and align it with the A3 registration marks. Mark in the edges of the A3 screen also.



### STEP 7 ALIGNING SCREEN

Check the A3 screen is marked out and aligned to screen registration marks. Use something to slightly prop up the screen (thin book/foam core or similar).

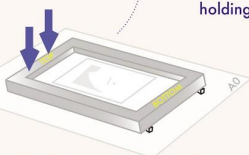
This prop up will allow you to flood the screen with paint without it bleeding underneath...



### STEP 8 - FLOODING

Use downward pressure to keep screen in place

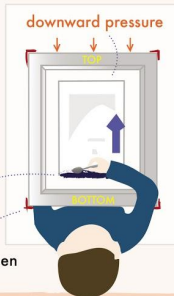
Pair can hold screen down



Apply paint with a spoon or similar to the edge of the stencil (closest edge to you)

\*\* Ensure someone is still holding the screen in place

Mark edges of screen in different colour



### STEP 10 CREATING MULTIPLE COPIES

Create screen print EDITIONS.

Place another paper under the screen before you wash it... and repeat second screen print. (only wash screen when applying next colour)

Repeat screen print process for each edition.

### WHAT IS FLOODING

flooding is when you fill the stencil with ink before printing. Ink is applied across the screen away from your body. Check the stencil areas are all covered with ink.

### STEP 9 SCREEN PRINT

Create the screen print!

Once the screen has an even coating of paint...

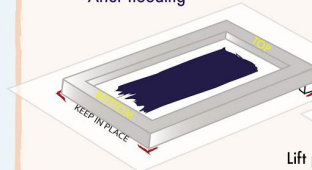
Lift the screen and remove the element  then place the screen flat onto the paper

Ensure the screen is held down firmly (aligned with the registration marks).

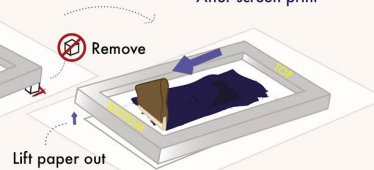
Pull the squeegee back towards you (top to bottom), then lift the screen to review print.

(paper might need to be peeled off slowly if this gets stuck)

After flooding



After screen print



Lift paper out

### STEP 11 START LAYERING SCREENS

Create the 2<sup>nd</sup> screen print COLOUR.

TIP: Check ink is dry by touching with your finger on the very edge of the print. Print must be dry before the next colour is added.

Wash the screen and repeat steps 7, 8 & 9. Print each colour on each edition. Continue this process for each colour.



### STEP 12

### CLEANUP



Screens must be washed with water within 10mins of being used to ensure the paint does not set within the screen.

Dry the screen with paper towel or drip dry.

Wipe all surfaces and place excess paper in bins. Check for spills on floor, clear walkways.

RETURN all materials to their designated area.