

AT-HOME ART PROJECT: Pencil Transfer Printing **INSTRUCTIONS**



INSPIRATION ARTIST:

Sonia Romero (1980, Los Angeles)

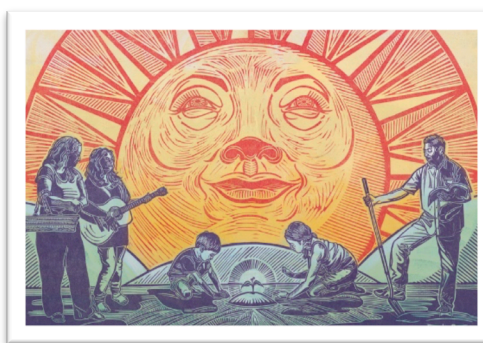
Sonia Romero is a multi-racial Los Angeles artist known for her paper-cut and printmaking aesthetics which she incorporates into both her fine art and public art commissions. Romero creates work that reflects the cultural diversity found in the communities of Los Angeles. She explores themes relating to the universal connectedness within humanity as well as its relationship to the environment. Her works are a combination of printmaking, paper-cutting, painting, and sculpture.

Romero's piece, *Year of the Straw* (2019), is a serigraph (a printed design produced by means of a silkscreen) which depicts a baby surrounded by plastic straws in the ocean. The baby was inspired by her son, whom she views as the up-and-coming generation who must face our growing environmental crisis. She also draws inspiration from the development of trash islands, such as the Great Pacific garbage patch, which continue to grow and damage our environment.

"Year of the Straw" asks viewers to consider the expanding consequences of human pollution on our environment and on future generations.



Year of the Straw, 2019, Serigraph



Tierra Del Sol Community Center



MacArthur Park Westlake Metro Station

MATERIALS NEEDED FROM HOME:

- Scratch Paper (any size)
- White Paper (any size)
- Drawing Pencil
- Sharpie, Black Marker, or Pen
- Colored Pencils, Markers or Crayons
- Computer printed images (optional)
- Scissors (optional)
- Glue Stick (optional)

ART PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Participants will create a pencil transfer print inspired by Romero's *Year of the Straw*. Artists will think about an environmental issue that is important to them and incorporate it into their artwork. Once an environmental issue has been selected, artists will use either a computer printed image or a hand drawn image to create a pencil transfer to use as a printing tool in their artwork.

The environment is everything around us. All of our surroundings including the air, soil, water, plants and animals make up the environment. Plants and animals need a healthy environment to survive. Environment issues are problems with the planet's systems (air, water, soil etc.) that have developed as a result of human interference or mistreatment of the planet. Some examples might be water pollution, global warming, air pollution, loss of habitats, protecting the ocean, trash landfills.

PROMPT QUESTIONS:

1. What environmental issues are important to you? Why?
2. How can you represent that in your artwork?
3. What image will you select to create your stencil? Why?

ART MAKING PROCESS:

Step 1:

Think about the environmental issue that you want to express. Begin by either drawing an image on your scratch paper or printing out an image from the computer to use as a pencil transfer stencil (FIG. 1). You can also consider using a print out to add to the background of your artwork.

Step 2:

To create with the pencil transfer process: use a graphite pencil, turn your stencil or image over and fill in the back of your paper with pencil, covering the surface wherever your image is. Rotate the image a few times and fill in with your pencil from different angles to create a very solid graphite base for your print (FIG. 2).

Step 3 (optional):

If you are adding an image, or words, to your background do so prior to beginning the stenciling process in Step 4.

Step 4:

Determine where you want to add your prints on your white paper. Place your stencil on your paper and trace over the image with a sharp pencil (FIG. 3 and 4). Press firmly but be careful not to tear your stencil paper. TIP: If you follow the same lines on your stencil every time you trace it, it will be easier to notice and catch all the lines each

LESSON PLAN

time you draw your image. If you are adding several stencil images to your artwork you may need to add additional pencil coverage to the back of your stencil paper as you work so the lines remain dark (FIG. 5).

Step 5:

Once you have added all the stenciled images that you desire, go over the lines with a Sharpie, black marker, or pen (FIG. 6).

Step 6:

Using whatever materials you have at home (colored pencils, markers or crayons) add color to your artwork (FIG. 7 and 8).

POST PROMPT QUESTIONS:

1. What challenges, if any, did you face while creating this artwork? How did you problem solve?
2. Did you enjoy the pencil transfer process? Why or why not?
3. In what other ways could you use the pencil transfer process?
4. On what other surfaces could you use a pencil transfer process? Wood? Canvas?

EXAMPLES:



FIG. 1



FIG. 2

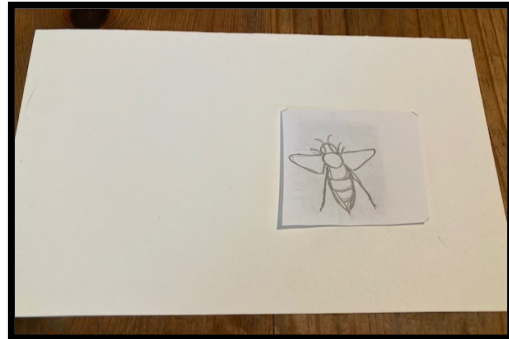


FIG. 3



FIG. 4



FIG. 5



FIG. 6

LESSON PLAN



FIG. 7



FIG. 8

SOURCES:

<http://www.soniaromero.net/fine-art-collections>

<https://www.selfhelpgraphics.com/blog/2019/6/14/artist-sonia-romero-contemplates-hope-and-the-future-of-the-planet-in-the-year-of-the-straw>