

### **Project 1: Photograms**

A photograph is a “sketch with light” wherein you expose a piece of photographic paper while placing various objects on top of it to create silhouettes of those objects. It is a “camera-less” photograph, so all you need is photo paper and the items you wish to record with light. So bring your box of Resin Coated (RC) photographic paper into the darkroom, along with various trinkets, toys, and things, and see what you can come up with!

**Note: Make SURE you do not open your box of photographic paper anywhere except under the safelights of the darkroom! This includes not opening the box of paper when the enlarger light is turned on.**

Along with the paper, you will need at least ten objects to use in your creations – I recommend a variety of organic and inorganic, opaque and translucent, reflective (metal- or mirror-like) and refractive (glass-like). Be creative! Have fun! Make something you and I have never seen before!

A goal of this assignment is to learn how to work with the print-developing chemicals of the darkroom, get acquainted with the enlarger and its timer, and start applying good darkroom etiquette (no lights, knocking to go in and out, keeping your area clean, and, of course, being careful with the chemicals).

While you are experimenting with different objects, also experiment with how you can *control* the look of these objects as you expose them to the paper – different exposure times, dodging and/or burning, using multiple exposures to create “ghost” images, or even long exposures during which you can move objects. Curious what might happen if you did things differently? Try it!

By the end of your experiments, you need to have 5 prints for our critique and to turn in for grading. I want to see your creativity, your unique design ideas, and your experimentation with this method to produce a light-based image.

**Due Date: Monday, 15 September**