

ART 2003C-05
Survey of Studio Art Practices
(Florence, Italy)
Spring 2009

Artist's Book Project

Your semester-long art project is to fill a 70-page sketchbook through your creativity, work in specific assignments, and whatever you want to remember your time in Florence by. There will be approximately 8 assigned art projects (2-4 pages each). Beyond these assignments, which will focus on specific approaches to art making, the rest of the book is up to you. Whether you want to use it as a sketchbook, as a journal, as a place to collage found items and ephemera, or however you see fit, my hope is that you will create a book that you will cherish as a memento of your time in Florence.

Ideas for working in your artist's book:

- Drawing/sketching
- Pasting in outside images (photos, magazine cut-outs, postcards, etc.)
- Collage (using outside images or objects, but modifying to create your own scenes)
- Cutting or folding the pages to create works of art in paper
- Adding in works created outside of the pages (pop-ups, fold-outs, non-paper materials)
- Writing and/or doodling (be creative in your approach)
- Create a cover for your book (which will be a later assignment)

Note: do not use the first two spreads of your book *yet* (inside cover and first 3 pages). We will come back to these pages for a later project.

For your first project in the artist's book (starting *after* the first two spreads), I want you to collect ephemera from your surroundings, such as restaurant/bar napkins, a drink umbrella, a ticket (museum, movie, gallery, etc.), flyers or postcards, etc. The items need to be small enough to glue into your book. With at least 3 items pasted into your book (on separate pages or 2-page spreads), I would like to see you develop drawings stemming from them. Have fun with this. It can be realistic or not. Perhaps these drawings reflect on where the objects came from, or what they are about. Or the ephemera could just be a place to start and experiment, going off in whatever direction you want. Create something unique and that speaks to you – enjoy the process!

Your finished Artist's Book will be collected on Friday, 17 April so that I can have them returned to you before you leave the following week.

Websites and names to look at for ideas with your Artist's Book:

- Buzz Spector, Keith Smith, Kiki Smith, Annette Messenger, Dieter Roth, Joseph Cornell, Rona Pondick, Tim Hawkinson, Petah Coyne
- <http://www.artic.edu/saic/art/flasch/flaschshow.html>
- <http://content.library.otis.edu/collections/artistsbooks.htm> (in search field, enter style or theme that you are interested in)
- <http://www.zyarts.com/zybooks/gallery1.html>
- <http://www.keithsmithbooks.com>
- <http://www.franklinfurnace.org/>
- <http://www.alteredbookartists.com/gallery/index.html>
- http://www.hgtv.com/hgtv/cr_paper_crafts_books/article/0.1789.HGTV_3288_225462_4.00.html (how-to ideas)
- <http://jscms.jrn.columbia.edu/cns/2006-12-12/feightner-altered-books/>
- <http://afonline.artistsspace.org/> (under media search, type in "books")