



Personal Print Motifs
Printmaking inspired by Maria Balazova



Visual Art Concepts:

Shape - geometric and organic
Space
Color
Stylized

Materials:

Multi-media paper / paper suitable for marker and paint
Cardboard for backing
Craft foam sheets
Washable color markers - nonpermanent
Scissors
Glue
9" x 13" pan, papertowel

Artist Inspiration:

Mária Balážová created her own personal symbolic shape that became the main subject of her artwork as her personal mythology. Mária created her symbol or motif as a geometrical stylized cobra which she named Serpent Geometry. Designing a personal motif can be a meaningful part of a person's story. Motifs can be a symbol, theme or pattern that appears in artwork. Stylized art contains a figure or object designed with simplified lines and shapes. Balážová distinguished herself with outlined subject-less combinations of shapes and colors. She is credited for creating a new type of geometric designs for a series of her artwork.

STEPS

1. Think of an object or figure as your personal motif. Draw and stylize your motif by breaking the shape down to simple lines / outlines. There are two main types of shapes - geometric and organic. Notice the simplified organic



plant shape motifs in the sample.

2. Draw your shapes on the craft foam sheets and arrange on cardboard. This will be your 'plate' for printing. Glue shapes down once you've decided on an arrangement. Allow the glue to dry so foam is securely attached.



3. Using washable markers, color the foam shapes. Depending on the color of the foam, marker colors may appear differently when you color, however, the colors will print clean and true.



4. Soak a piece of paper for 30 - 60 seconds. Hold paper upright to allow excess water to drip off, and then blot on papertowel.
5. Lay the wet paper on top of the foam design plate. Gently press the back of the paper as on top of the foam, press the paper over each individual shape being careful not to tear the paper. You should see some of the colors showing through the paper.
6. Pull the paper off of the plate and you will have your first print! Allow to dry flat.
7. You may repeat this process many times and produce a number of prints. You will have created your own series of a personal motif!

Resources:

- <https://artfacts.net/artist/maria-balazova/148595>