

SERENA BOCCHINO INSPIRED PRINTMAKING

OBJECTIVE: Students will be able to:

- observe and discuss abstract art by Serena Bocchino
- create an abstract work of art using a variety of techniques: painting and printmaking
- utilize elements of art including line, color, shape, and texture
- experience tactile and sensory stimulation
- participate in a meaningful activity that fosters personal
- socialize and communicate with other members of the group
- practice fine motor skills & creative expression
- use media and materials appropriately to create a unique art series inspired by Serena Bocchino's art

CLASSROOM/PREP:

- Fill "ketchup" bottles with water down acrylic or tempera paint (2-3 colors per participant)
- Set up supplies for each student at their table for the printing project:
 - precut paper 5x7" (8 pieces for each participant, plus extra), paper towels; wipes, Q-tips, acrylic paint (tubes and small bottles), stencils, small paper plates, brushes, texture scrapers, etc.
- *Set up one table/station with painting/dripping project: 2 5x7 papers p/person-- students can use paper they draw on in the gallery;
- Optional: clipboards with 5x7" paper and crayons/pastels
- *Precut black background paper (8.5x29/30inc)- it should fit 4 5x7" pieces- teacher will glue them afterward.
- *Teachers reference: [\(54\) Monoprint Techniques with Gelli Printing Plates - YouTube](#)

MATERIALS:

Included:

- Clipboard; one 5x7" white paper and black/white oil pastels/crayons/glitter crayons (one per student)
- Tin pans, water down acrylic paint for dripping paper, 2 5x7" white papers; pipettes and/or "ketchup" bottles or smaller paint bottles
- Gelli Printing Plates (47003-1810 Printing Plate, 5x7")
- Acrylic paint/ in tubes (Liquitex acrylic paint or Speedball water based ink in tubes)
- Paper for printing 5x7' (6-8 sheets per student)
- Black construction paper for the background 8.5 x29/30" to fit 4 5x7" pieces
- 04986-1004 Paint Scrapers, Set of 4
- Soft rubber brayers(for paint and clean to press paper s down)
- Cotton swabs, sticks for drawing images (sticks have to be very soft or they will damage the gelli plate)
- Paper towels, towels, **baby wipes**
- Stencils 5x7"



MOTIVATION: (10 min):

1. Observe Serena Bocchino's art.

a) Look at *Move Forward* (large abstract piece), discuss: **What's going on in this picture? *How does it make you feel?*

**How would you describe colors in this work? *What does it make you think of?*

-Serena Bocchino is an American contemporary artist. Her work is a mix of abstract and expressionist art filled with movement, vivid colors, and exciting rhythms. Serena works in a variety of media, including painting and sculpture. Abstract artists usually explore feelings, instead of focusing on how things look in real life.

b) Look at *Rush Crush* (monoprinting series) and discuss:

**How would you describe colors in this work? (contrast with all other colorful pieces)?*

**How would you describe lines?*

**What do all these pieces have in common? What is different about them? (white lines/shapes are the same)*

**If this painting was a piece of music, what kind of music would it be?*

2. **Optional:** Pass around clipboards with 5x7" paper and crayons/pastels. Have participants draw the lines/shapes they see in these pieces.

PROCEDURES:

Today we will create colorful art inspired by Serena's exhibition. We will start mono-printing.

1. Printmaking with Gelli plates. We are going to be using these plates for making all sorts of prints. We will create patterns and interesting designs inspired by Serena's art. We will do the first 2 prints together as I demonstrate a few techniques.

DEMO and **do step by step** with the participants:

- a) Squeeze a small dot of paint onto the Gelli plate. Roll out paint evenly using a brayer. It should make a tacky/zippy sound. **DEMONSTRATE.**
- b) Draw a design on the Gelli plate using a Q-tip. It can be simple as a zigzag line, circles, squiggles, squares, etc. Think about lines and shapes in Serena's art. **DEMONSTRATE.**
- c) Place the paper over the image. Have participants press firmly over the paper using the palm or baren or clean clay roller. Have participants lift 1-2 prints from this design and then clean the Gelli plate. Assist with plate cleaning. First, participants should blot the paint with newsprint or other scrap paper and then wipe the Gelli plate with baby wipes or wet paper towels. **DEMONSTRATE.**
- d) Now, repeat steps a-c, using a stencil and/or texture tools/Paint Scrapers to create interesting designs. **DEMO.** Participants can lift 1-2 prints from one design. Clean the plate.
- e) Have participants make more prints using any of the methods. **Walk around to assist.** Show how to make prints using 2 colors: spread paint even or randomly on the Gelli plate. Then place a stencil or paper cut out on the plate; paint or roll over a stencil with a different color while holding the stencil firmly in place and avoiding getting the second color onto the first exposed layer; carefully lift the stencil off the plate and cover the plate with paper. Have participants lift a print or two and clean the plate.

2. Pouring/dripping technique: At the separate table **DEMO** how to paint (drip) with "ketchup" bottles and/or small paint bottles. Serena and other expressionist artists like Jackson Pollock poured paint from a can or other large container. We will use bottles to do it. It's kind of like drawing with liquid or decorating the cake.

- Participants can drip paint over white paper or some prints they have made.
- Clean up.

Gelli printing ideas/methods



Appendix 1:

Pour painting ideas:

