







Challenge 1: Still Life with Everyday Objects

Materials & Examples	Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A device to take pictures with (Camera, smart phone, or tablet) • A collection of objects that you are using every day during your quarantine • A tripod to hold your camera (optional) • A box or empty frame, string, and tape (optional) <p>Artist Inspiration: Hong Lei</p>  	<p>INTRO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Today we are going to be creating a still life inspired by an artist in our exhibition Out of the Shadows; Hong Lei. • A still life is a collection of objects that are arranged in a meaningful way. Lei creates his still lifes by hanging objects from a thin string. <p>GATHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think about the items you have been using every day during our social distancing. What is giving you comfort or distraction? Think both about actual items or symbols/representations of activities or feelings you have. This is a visual diary that we can look back on to remember how we felt during this crazy time. <p>Megan Items: Hydroflask, face mask, playing cards, clorox wipes, chapstick, Tik Tok, headphones/music, essential oils, scrunchie, lotion, mug. Setting: Small table covered in green velvet fabric Mood: Relaxed</p>  <p>ARRANGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once you have gathered all of your materials find a space where you would like to set up your still life. If you would like some of your objects to be hanging like Hong Lei's work, make sure there is something above you can dangle your objects from • If you have a cardboard box that is the perfect space to build your still life! • Test out different arrangements, think about putting heavier items at the bottom and lighter objects towards the top of your space <p>TIPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lighting is key! Find a well lit area with natural light or use flashlights and lamps for a more dramatic scene • Make your background simple so it does not distract from your objects • Play with different angles. Move your phone or camera up and down to see what the best angle is for your still life • Use objects of different sizes for variety. Or put objects on stands or boxes to elevate them <p>FINAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload your photos and tag MOPA on Instagram @MOPASD

Challenge 2: Nature Still Life

Materials	Steps
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A device to take pictures with (Camera, smart phone, or tablet) ● A collection of objects that you find outside ● Any objects from your house you would like to include <p>Artist Inspiration: Irving Penn</p>  	<p>INTRO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● For this photo challenge we are going to create a still life inspired by photographer Irving Penn. Penn was a master at still lifes and often would hide a bug, something decaying or other surprises. We like to call that “a little bit of poison.” Check out the examples to the left and see if you can spot the “poison.” <p>GATHER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Walk around your neighborhood or take a walk at a park or a beach. Look for interesting organic materials. This could be plants, leaves, flowers, empty cans. Be careful if you want to use trash, make sure it is clean and safe! ● Think about what you can use to “add a little bit of poison” just like Penn did. We had some realistic toy bugs to add to our still lifes that were really fun! <p>ARRANGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Find a good space to arrange your objects. The background will play a big role in how your image turns out. You could use the blacktop, a sidewalk, the grass, or blanket or towel to arrange your objects. ● Test out lots of different arrangements. Try stacking your materials on top of each other to create a dynamic look. ● If you need inspiration check out more of Irving Penn’s still life, or look at some student examples that we did at MOPA  <p>TIPS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lighting is key! If you take your still life picture outside, look for a good shaded place. This will create even lightening and there will be no shadow from your phone or camera. ● Test out different vantage points. A bird’s eye view will give an overview of your materials, and a worm’s eye view could give a unique perspective of your materials that you don’t normally see. ● Mix and match organic materials with objects from your house to add more visual interest. <p>FINAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upload your photos and tag MOPA on Instagram @MOPASD

