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## Working In Series Winter 2022

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*"A series is, by definition, two or more unique and autonomous things possessing some commonality and organized sequentially. The principle that unifies and defines a series can be thematic, narrative, iconographic, formal, structural, modular, conceptual, or something else entirely. Likewise, the sequence of works within a series may be dictated by the artist, by an internal system or external logic, or it could be indeterminate. All series involve repetition, variation, and sequence; each component is informed by the previous one and, in turn, informs the next. While works in a series may be (and frequently are) displayed individually, the full effect and meaning of a series can be conveyed only when shown in its entirety."*

Wall text from the exhibition The Serial Impulse at the NGA, 2015

I look forward to working with all of you this winter! Hoping omicron passes through quickly. It is possible that I might do the first week through zoom, since it is a slide show and discussion and can be done just as easily remotely. The term will be divided into two segments, leading to the production of two distinct series – one quick and mostly in a sketchbook, one more developed. The first few weeks of the class we will all be working from the same motif that I will be supplying for each of you, and we will all move through the same guided series of explorations. However, they will inevitably lead to a very different end result for each of you, based on choices you make and your own sensibilities. This is to get you thinking about the kinds of questions that propel you through the generative process of working in series. Part of week 1 will be a slide show and discussion of various artists who are known for their series, and what kinds of questions are being asked.

The last six or seven weeks will be an individual exploration of your own subject, but there will also be guidance and helpful parameters throughout the process. One of the benefits of a class is that there is lots of healthy stealing and learning from each other. I look forward to seeing how generative you are as individuals AND as a classroom community as we build series together.

Below are suggested materials for the first few weeks, but anything close is fine. We will talk about supplies for the second part of the class the first day. They will inevitably be different for each of you as your own series may require different materials, so I'm hesitant to complete the list at this point.

Feel free to email me with any questions.

[Weeks 1-3/4](#)

Spiral bound sketchbook at least 9x12" (Canson XL Mix Media is ideal for this class because it can handle lots of materials)

2 graphite pencils, 2B and 6B (or close if you already own others)

1 or 2 permanent pens like Pilot G-2 or Micron, and a wider chisel point low odor marker. Posca pens are ideal because they don't bleed through the paper. They are acrylic based and work on any surface. If you have something else comparable it should be fine, but no Sharpies, please – the odor is toxic to many students) What you want are two very different line widths.

Small containers of black ink, walnut or other brown ink, and either white ink or white gouache

Or

Watercolors

Or

Gouache

Or water soluble caran d'ache crayons

A round watercolor brush (not too small)

Container for water (yogurt container or other)

If you have it: Acrylic paint in these four colors:

Black

White

Red (cadmium, naphthol or similar – not venetian)

Yellow ochre

(if you don't have acrylic but have watercolor or gouache that is fine)

A brush or two that you hopefully already own that will work for acrylic paint

Small matte, semi-gloss or gloss medium if acrylic (\*\*optional\*\*)

Small amount of found paper for collage

Palette – can be disposable

Palette knife

Roll of Artist tape

Paper towel

Ruler

Glue stick, or other glue – can be acrylic medium

The final 7 weeks may require different materials and types of surfaces, depending on your individual project, but as mentioned, we will talk about that Day 1. It will be different for each of you. Some of you may end up painting with oils, acrylic, watercolor, or pastel. Some may stick to drawing, some may print or collage, and some may get dimensional with your work. Most likely you will be working with materials that you already have. The class will be both experimental and traditional in nature, and your curiosity regarding process will be appreciated as much or possibly more than your

product. How curiosity propels one through a series is what we are after, while always keeping strong use of elements and principle of design intact. Especially considering these stressful times, we will keep expectations such that you will be 'beginning' rather than 'completing' a series! When I've taught this class in the past, students continued to work on their series long past the class time as their passion for the subject grew. One student from Winter 2020 is still working on her series!