

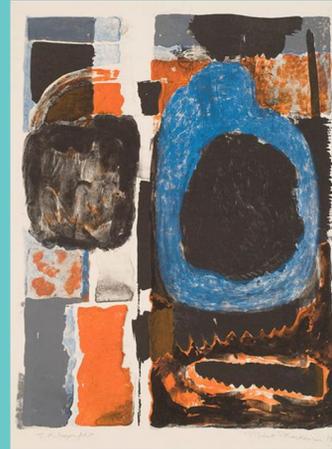
Robert Blackburn (1920-2003) was a key figure artist in the development of printmaking in the 20th century. He was an influential teacher who embraced democracy in terms of the creative process and access to art.

Today's project is inspired by the masterwork "Unfinished Note" and "Faux Pas". The work consists of layered colors and shapes which we will be recreating in our project.

Notice how these two works look the similar? The only difference is the orientation. Faux pas is unfinished note upside down. Blackburn worked very fluidly with his pieces and reworked images from all sides. Today we will be following Blackburn's footsteps creating two similar but different prints.



Unfinished Note, 1960



Faux Pas, 1960

MATERIALS:

- 2 pieces of paper
- oil pastels/crayons
- paint
- paper plate/paint palette
- disposable objects (ex: rubber bands, cotton swabs, disposable cutlery, bubble wrap)

STEP 1:

Use your oil pastels to color in your background in random blocks, use the same color scheme but have a slight variation in background between the two pieces. Leave some open space to create texture.



STEP 2:

Using the frottage technique (textured rubbings) find 1-2 surfaces you want to imprint for your background and fill in spaces.

Frottage is a textured rubbing where you put your paper over a raised surface and rub your medium against to create an imprint.



STEP 3:

Play around with your objects and arrange how you want to stamp

You can also experiment with what image the objects will print on a separate piece of paper



STEP 4:

Once you arrange everything to your liking, dip objects in paint and stamp onto paper. Make sure to play around with the different ways one object might print. For example you can use the tip of the cotton swab to create a dot but also the side of the cotton swab can produce a different imprint.



STEP 5:

When you are done printing the first piece, stamp the objects on the second piece of paper and recreate the same prints. Use the first piece as a reference and try to copy as close as you can



STEP 6:

Once you are finished you will now have two prints! Change the orientation of one piece and turn upside down.

Now you have completed making your own Blackburn inspired prints!

