

INSTANT FILM EMULSION LIFT RECIPE

This technique floats the emulsion off the surface of a fully-developed Instant Film print positive. The thin layer of emulsion is then applied to a substrate. Folds and overlays are inherent in the process.

MATERIALS *supplied by the student*

Originals of your work in Digital format [either Transparency or Print on Paper]
FujiFilm 100c Instant Film, or Polaroid Type 669 Instant Film
Receiving Material
 Archival Printmaking Paper, such as Arches 88, Rives BFK, Crane, Stonehenge
 should be un-sized with a smooth surface (hot-press), 140 lb or more
 Any Other Substrate such as glass, metal, wood, etc. (*optional*)
Clear Acetate or Mylar Sheet
Gloss Gel Medium (*optional*)
Small Foam Brush

EQUIPMENT *available in the Lab*

Daylab Processor	Electric Skillet	Thermometer
2 Trays	Tongs	Scissors
		Brayer
		Hair Dryer

THE PROCESS

EXPOSE AND PREP

tear down _____ the paper or cut the receiver material to the appropriate size
set the Film Type _____ to 3 for Fuji 100c, ASA 100, or 2 for Polaroid 669, ASA 80
expose the film _____ in the Daylab processor
 + will darken the print, - will lighten it
 pull the film _____ through the rollers, smoothly and evenly
wait 90 seconds _____ for film to fully process
 peel away _____ the negative from the positive
 set aside _____ the negative (but save for another process)
set and dry _____ the Print Positive fully
 use a hair dryer _____ for 1-2 minutes (it can also be left overnight to air dry)
trim _____ to the size of the picture, eliminating all white borders

COOK AND LIFT

fill _____ the electric skillet with water
 heat _____ to 160° F
immerse _____ the print face up into the hot water
 use the tongs _____ on the edges to make sure it stays immersed
 keep in hot water _____ until white bubbles start to appear on the surface
 the Emulsion should start to lift off on its own in about 3 ~ 5 minutes
place _____ a sheet of clear acetate in a tray of cold water
transfer _____ the print with tongs into the tray of cold water
lightly push _____ the emulsion with your fingers until it lifts off the backing
maneuver _____ the emulsion onto the acetate sheet
 try to flatten out _____ the wrinkles
 although some feel the wrinkles are the best part!
remove _____ the acetate with the Emulsion Lift from the tray of water

INSTANT FILM EMULSION LIFT RECIPE, cont'd.

TRANSFER AND GLUE

remove _____ the backing material from the water
pick up _____ the adhesive from the backing material
use a small foam brush
Gloss Gel Medium or Mod Podge can also be used
apply _____ the adhesive to the receiver material
be careful _____ to apply only in the image area
slide _____ the Emulsion Lift onto the adhesive-coated receiver
brayer lightly _____ over the emulsion from the middle outwards
clean _____ any glue off the brayer immediately!
remove _____ any excess glue from beyond the image area
use a paper towel

allow _____ to air dry (overnight)

an additional layer of Gloss Gel Medium or Mod Podge can be applied over the finished piece (*optional*)

CHEMICAL SAFETY

Always be careful when developing and handling Instant Film materials. When the Instant Film prints are pulled apart, the developing chemicals are exposed. These chemicals are toxic and somewhat caustic. Keep away from skin and eyes.

AESTHETIC CONSIDERATIONS

There is a certain amount of translucency with these lifts. This can be used to make interesting multiple image pieces and overlays.

The ability to adhere lifts to any surface make the possibility of making photographic objects. Just do not let the receiver overpower the image. Remember – *'form supports content'*.

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