

IMAGE TRANSFERS

It is possible to transfer the emulsion from certain Polaroid films onto other materials. This allows the production of prints that range from beautiful emulsion on watercolor paper pieces to funky emulsion of three-dimensional objects. There are two ways to make these transfers – Image Transfer and Emulsion Lift.

POLAROID IMAGE TRANSFER

MATERIALS supplied by the student

35 mm slides of your work
Polaroid Type 669 film
Receiving Material (referred to as substrate)
 Printmaking Paper
 archival watercolor paper, such as Rives BFK, Crane, Stonehenge
 Fabric (*optional*)
 cotton or any natural fiber fabric
Vinegar for more saturated color (*optional*)

EQUIPMENT available in the Lab

Daylab Processor
2 Trays Squeegee Plexiglass Drying Board
Scissors Brayer Hair Dryer

THE PROCESS

tear down _____ the paper or cut the fabric to the desired size
presoak _____ the paper or fabric in a tray of warm water
squeegee _____ the paper or fabric over a piece of plexiglass
 remove _____ excess water
 leave _____ the substrate "laminated" to plexiglass
expose the film _____ in the Daylab processor
 pull the film _____ through the rollers
 cut off _____ the metal endcap of the film
wait 10-15 seconds _____ for film to process
 peel away _____ the negative from the positive
place the negative _____ **immediately** on the wet paper
 brayer _____ over the negative a couple times
 use _____ medium pressure
allow _____ image to transfer for 2 minutes
dry _____ with hair dryer on hot setting over negative
 apply _____ light to medium pressure with your hands
continue to dry _____ for at least 2 minutes, with pressure
 the negative should become dry and warm
peel back _____ the negative **very carefully** from the substrate
 start _____ at one end and work across

OPTIONAL:

place _____ transferred image into a tray of vinegar and water
 (1 part vinegar to 4 parts water) for more intense color
rinse _____ in a tray of water for 2 - 5 minutes

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POLAROID EMULSION LIFT TRANSFERS

This technique floats the emulsion off the surface of a Polaroid 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

35 mm slides of your work
Polaroid Type 669 film
Receiving Material (referred to as substrate)
 Printmaking Paper
 archival watercolor paper, such as Rives BFK, Crane, Stonehenge
 any other substrate (*optional*)
 such as glass, metal, wood, etc.
Contact Paper
Clear Acetate or Mylar

EQUIPMENT available in the Lab

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

THE PROCESS

tear down _____ the paper or cut the substrate to the appropriate size
expose the film _____ in the Daylab processor
 pull the film _____ through the rollers and
 cut off _____ the metal endcap of the film
wait 60 seconds _____ for film to fully process
 peel away _____ the negative from the positive
 discard _____ the negative
set and dry _____ the Polaroid positive fully
 use a hair dryer _____ for 1-2 minutes (it can also be left overnight to air dry)
cover the back _____ of the Polaroid with contact paper
 trim _____ to the size of the film

fill _____ the electric skillet with water
 heat _____ to 160° F
immerse _____ the Polaroid 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 be starting to lift off on its own
place _____ a sheet of clear acetate in a tray of cold water
transfer _____ the Polaroid with tongs into the tray of cold water
lightly push _____ the emulsion with your fingers until it lifts off the backing
maneuver _____ the emulsion carefully so it is facing down
place _____ the emulsion onto the acetate
 try to _____ flatten out the wrinkles
 it will take some patience to get the emulsion into the desired shape
 some feel the wrinkles are the best part, however!
remove _____ the acetate from the tray of water
place face down _____ on the substrate
brayer lightly _____ over the emulsion from the middle outwards
allow to _____ air dry