

Crafts week 19

Reshaping space

Go for a walk around your neighbourhood with a phone camera or a camera. Make observations about which elements in your surroundings have been shaped or built by people, and which things are natural. Stop in front of a space or place, which, in your opinion, could be better, more functional, or more beautiful. Could this spot that you would like to reshape be a public space on a beach, or perhaps part of a sports park? What could you add/remove or change here so that it would be more pleasant, and/or more pleasing aesthetically? Take picture of the place and then go back inside to work. You can use the paper you received from the school of art for your work, or thicker watercolours paper. If you have masking tape, tape the paper down from the edges to a base. When you paint the entire paper, you will have frames for your work once you peel off the tape carefully. Take a look at your photos, and then start making your plans by sketching in pencil. When your picture is ready, continue in monochrome, or in other words, with only one colour. In addition to tone and saturation, colour also has the value property, or in other words, the degree of darkness and light. [LINK](#)

Try painting with instant coffee! [LINK](#)

Start with a light value, and move on to darker ones. Finally, use the darkest value for your painting. (If you don't want to paint with coffee, you can use one watercolour, for example, and its different levels of darkness). You can also do some other experiments, for example, try sprinkling salt or instant coffee on a wet spot. What happens then?

Painting with coffee:

Instant coffee works best, but you can also try painting with filter coffee or tea. Boil water and first mix a small batch of coffee for painting. Try a teaspoon of instant coffee to which you add a small drop of water. Let the mixture cool down, as the glue in the paintbrush can't take much heat. Make four different strengths, or degrees of darkness. On a palette or plates you can add water to dilute the mixture to make different degrees of darkness. On YouTube you can find many videos by searching for "coffee painting". [LINK](#)

DESIGN
PERIOD

What you need

thick (watercolour)paper, masking tape, pencil, an assortment of paintbrushes of different thickness, instant coffee or watercolours

Goal

Monochromatic painting, values, constructed environment, making observations in your neighbourhood, design



Photo: Saga Heino