

Monique Martin

Biography of the Artist

Monique Martin is a Canadian artist and teacher. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan is home for her. She teaches Visual art at Georges Vanier Catholic School, a designated Fine Arts School. Through Monique Martin's art lessons, students study many different artists and become worldly in their views and their work.

Her work was featured in *Maclean's Magazine* (May 13, 2002 issue) and *Inflight Magazine* (April 2001 Issue). Recent television segments include CBC Saskatoon, CBC Ottawa, CTV, WGAL TV (Pennsylvania, USA), and Shaw Cable. Her series *Standing Alone* was in the exhibition *Ghost Town* at the Mendel Art Gallery in 2001.

Monique was Artist in Residence for Coaticook, QC in 2001, and is currently the Canadian Tulip Festival Ambassador and Artist in Residence as well as Artist in Residence for Georges Vanier School.

The Canadian Tulip Festival sponsored the publication of a catalogue about the series *Standing Alone*. It was released in March of 2003.

The Art Style of Monique Martin

Monique's Martin's artwork often utilizes historically significant symbols and images to express her ideas. Many ideas, symbols and meanings are gathered while travelling and seeing new things, studying the masters, and meeting other contemporary artists. She researches many of her concepts in detail prior to creating her work. Monique Martin generally paints large-scale pieces. Many paintings include images of flowers. She has been working with painting in black and white and has enjoyed the challenge. Monique Martin's work utilizes ever-changing concepts and images because her art is a way of exploring who she is, who she was, who she is becoming, and where she fits into the world around her.

Art Lesson / Monique Martin / Printmaking Prairie Lilies with No Rollers and No Ink

Student Objectives

- Students will be inspired by the life and art of Monique Martin.
- Students will create an art piece using a simulated printmaking method.
- Students will learn printmaking terminology.
- Students will understand the difference between a reproduction and a print.

Materials

New Styrofoam meat trays (plate) – Unisource product #072154,
Saskatoon, SK (934-8004)
Prang ® markers
Water-soluble markers
Sponges
Glue stick
Oil pastels (optional)
White drawing paper 11 x 17"
Strips of black paper 2 cm wide (4 per student)
Paint
Bond paper or photocopy paper
Images of the prairie lily
Pencils
Newsprint

Web Links

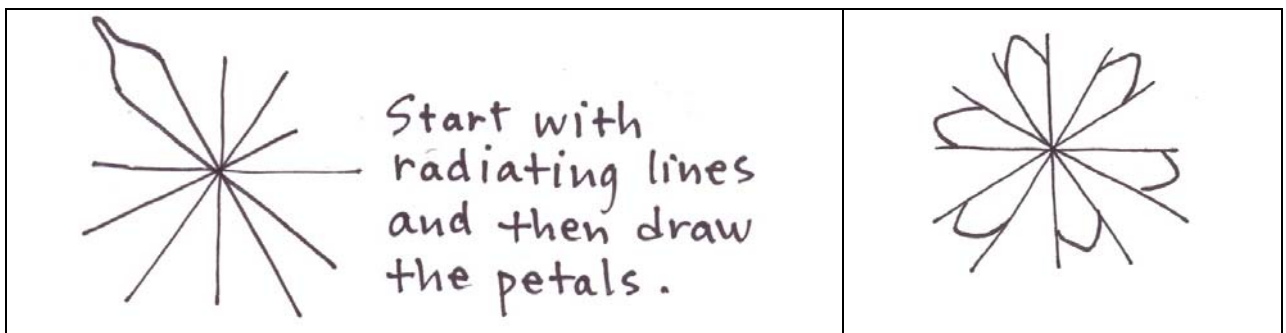
www.moniqueart.com

Procedure

Read the Bibliography of the Artist to the students. View the work of Monique Martin on the Internet, See Web Links.

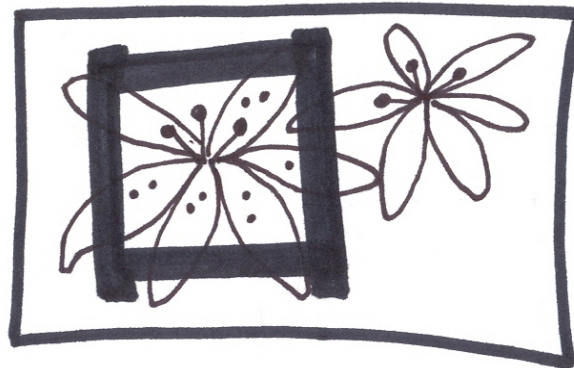
1. Introduce or discuss the concept of printmaking. Printmaking is a method that an artist uses to make multiple copies of an image, using a plate or block on which ink is placed and then transferred to another surface.
2. Explain the difference between a print and a reproduction. *A print is conceived of as a print and produced as a print. The work is not a print if it was conceived of and created in another medium and then reproduced with printmaking techniques. For example, an oil painting that is photographed and then reproduced using printmaking techniques is not a print but rather a reproduction.*
3. Review the compositional techniques from the John Perret Art Lesson and focus on cropping.
4. Present the theme of Saskatchewan, with a focus on the prairie lily, by having the students draw a prairie lily on newsprint.
5. Focus on the interesting shapes of the lily petals. Many images of the prairie lily can be found on the Internet and on Saskatchewan calendars. Do a Goggle Search in Images.
6. To help younger students draw the flowers, have them draw 12 lines radiating out from a center. Use 2 lines to create each petal. This gives both a starting point and an ending point for each petal as well as the correct amount of petals in the end.

Diagram



7. To discuss and use cropping effectively, cut strips of black paper about 2 cm wide. Each student will need four. Lay the strips on the drawings they have made and crop. Move the strips around to find a pleasing composition and look for where the negative space becomes more interesting. Negative space is the space that surrounds the lily. There should not be a lot of open space around the entire flower.

Diagram



8. Students created lilies on the Styrofoam tray by dragging a pencil on it. Anywhere that the Styrofoam is marked will become white in the final print. It is important to drag the pencil and not push it. The Styrofoam tray becomes the printing plate.
9. Students colour the plate (that which creates the print) with Prang ® markers. Compared to other markers, Prang ® seems to transfer the most effectively with the brightest colours. All areas of the plate are covered unless you are doing the collage technique later with the print, where the negative space will be filled in with a different medium.
10. It is important that when colouring the plate they do not scratch the surface with the tip of the marker or it will cause new white lines to appear on the finished piece. Colour with the side of the marker.
11. Colour the entire plate, both the flower and the negative space.
12. Students should carefully colour the petals and leaves. The petals and leaves can have several colours on them. For example the orange lily

petals are yellow near the center with black dots. It is possible to lay one colour over another with this printing technique.

13. Evenly dampen a piece of bond paper (photocopier paper) using a sponge. Help young students do this step. If there is too much water, the marker bleeds. If there is too little water, the colour doesn't transfer.
14. The plate is placed on the table inked side up.
15. Wet side down, place the paper on top of the plate.
16. Rub the plate with a fist and fingers and the image will transfer. This is visible through the paper. You will be able to visually recognize when the image has transferred.
17. Remove the paper and re-ink the plate to make a second print. Students can change the colours of the print on the second printing if they wish.

Adaptation # 1

The lesson can be continued by printing three prints of the plate and mounting them as a triptych or more, similar to an Andy Warhol piece.

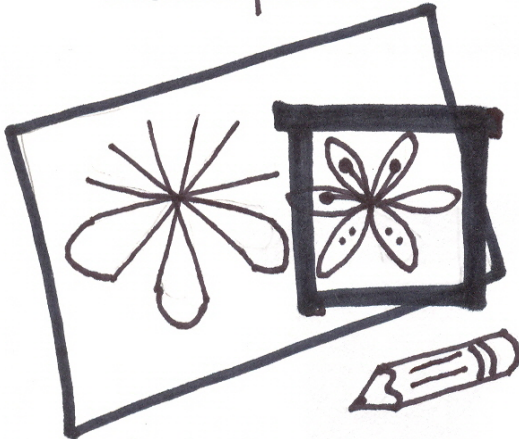
Adaptation # 2

1. The lily can be printed many times over, cut out, and then used to create an entirely new piece of art. Leaves can be created in the same way. (Do not crop the lily on the plate if you chose this method for the finished product.)
2. An interesting way to collage the cut out lilies is to create a square like frame inside the edge of a piece of paper (maybe 2 cm inside the edge). Glue the lilies so that some of the petals go over the edge.
3. It is best to collage odd numbers of lilies on, as odd numbers are more effective in composition. The negative space can very effectively be filled in with pastel or paint.
4. Students title their pieces.



Monique Martin Artist Study / Printmaking
Prairie Lilies With No Rollers and No Ink

1. Practice drawing
— prairie lilies on
newsprint.



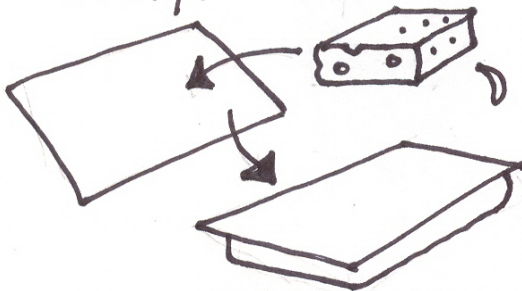
Crop and choose.

2. Draw your prairie
— lily on a foam
tray. Colour
with markers.



Colour the negative
space, too.

3. Dampen a sheet
— of bond paper
with a sponge
and water.
Place it over the
tray.



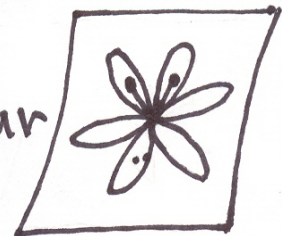
4. Press.



Rub.



Remove.
Title your
work.



Student Art / Monique Martin Artist Study

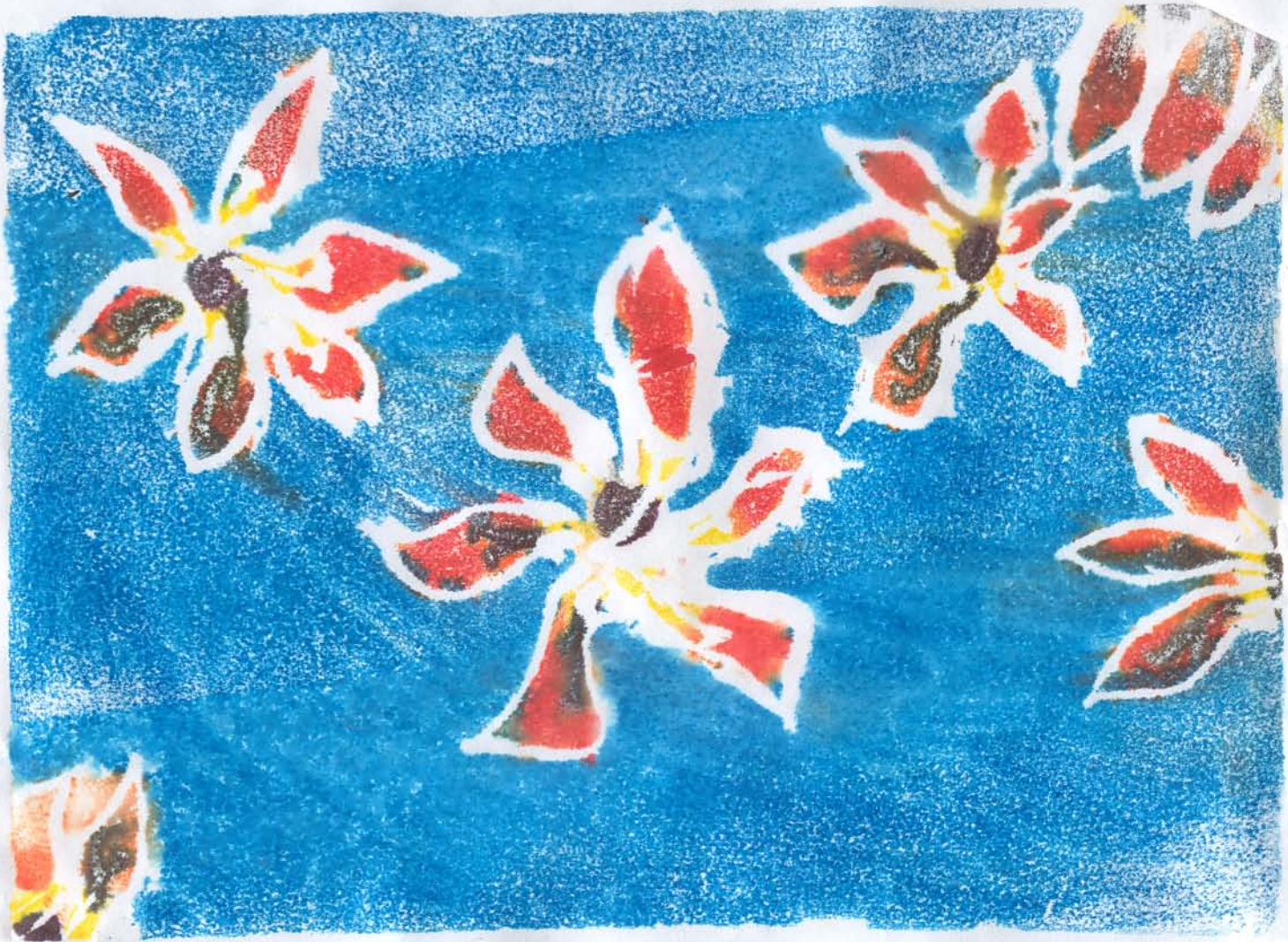


Megan Johnson, Grade One









Nicole

