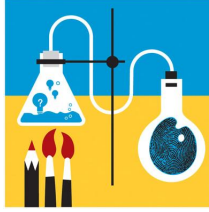


Core Concept 1: Artists play, with materials, ideas and failure



Take a look at the six images below. What do they all have in common?

"THE STUDIO IS A LABORATORY, NOT A FACTORY. AN EXHIBITION IS THE RESULT OF YOUR EXPERIMENTS, BUT THE PROCESS IS NEVER-ENDING. SO AN EXHIBITION IS NOT A CONCLUSION."

CHRIS OFILI (ARTIST)

Within the artist's studio, we can describe the process of playing and experimenting with materials as being like a journey for your imagination. As we explore, our thoughts and ideas travel from one place to another. Without a genuine creative journey, you can never expect to reach a worthwhile destination



“THE CREATION OF SOMETHING NEW IS NOT ACCOMPLISHED BY THE INTELLECT BUT BY THE PLAY INSTINCT” CARL JUNG (PSYCHOANALYST)

WHAT DOES PLAY LOOK LIKE FOR AN ARTIST?

Artist Olafur Eliasson exhibited dozens of small maquettes (think of them as sculptural sketches) as part of a major exhibition at Tate Modern.

They were made from all sorts of materials: paper, wood, wire, blu tack and even Lego.



Anthony Gormley's sketchbooks are full of quick, playful drawings, testing out ideas. This is drawing as part of a process.



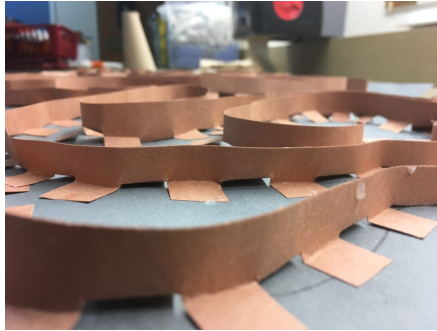
In this video, Karla Black explains some of her creative processes and you get to see some of work in process. How would you describe her use of materials?



“I’D RATHER RISK AN UGLY SURPRISE THAT RELY ON THINGS I KNOW I CAN DO”
HELEN FRANKENTHALER (ARTIST)

SOMETIMES, ARTISTS NEED TO GIVE AWAY SOME CONTROL IN ORDER TO RELEASE NEW POSSIBILITIES

On the right is a list of verbs and similar instructive words compiled by the artist Richard Serra. He has talked about using this list as a way of overcoming creative blocks - those moments when you feel that inspiration is hard to come by and you need a little kick to get the ideas flowing.



“PLAY IS A NECESSARY INGREDIENT IN ART BECAUSE THERE IS A KIND OF WONDER THAT GOES ON WHEN YOU PLAY” RICHARD SERRA (ARTIST)

SIMPLICITY

DENSITY

CONFUSION

CONSTRUCTION

INSTABILITY

Suggested activities for the summer:

1. Make 20 paper sculptures

Continue to make mini works of art using identical sheets of paper as your only material. Limit yourself. When we put strict parameters around our choice of materials we can stimulate a greater level of creativity. Use Richard Serra's verb list or the list of concepts on the next slide to inspire you when you hit a brick wall with your ideas.

2. Explore Erwin Wurm's "One-Minute Sculptures"

Artist [Erwin Wurm](#) is well known for his playful series of one-minute sculptures. Choose items of clothing from your wardrobe at home and other inanimate everyday objects. Play with them by interacting with them in strange, unconventional and unexpected ways. Use them to turn your own body into a sculptural form. Photograph the results in a clean, refined context with a simply, blank background.



Certainty

Addition

Perforation

Subtraction

Restriction

Communication

Expansion

Desolation

Elongation

Celebration

Complexity

Containment

Seperation

Suspension

Expulsion

Rotation