

Teach Peace Prints Eco Printing Workshop Information



Contact

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Workshop Title

Eco Printing with Natural Pigments

4 sessions - Saturdays
3 hours per session

Description

Dive into the realm of natural printmaking and dyeing processes in this hands-on, multi-session workshop! This four-session class will focus on creative techniques for making natural prints through the eco printing process on fabric and paper. Hidden color exists all around us, waiting to be transformed into works of art. In this course, participants will discover ways to utilize local plant species and food waste using sustainable methods for makers of all ages and experience levels. Eco printing is the process of bundling and steaming natural materials onto either fabric or paper, allowing the natural pigments to transfer to the prepared material. All of the colors, shapes, and textures transfer from the materials themselves through a heating process, which assists in both visually and chemically transforming the pigments onto a substrate. Pretreated or 'mordanted' fabrics allow natural colors to last longer over time and exposure to sunlight. We will focus on mordanting techniques, safety procedures, and discuss the variability when using different fibers. Suggestions for mindful foraging techniques and plant safety will be integrated into the class, with emphasis on how place and time can inform an art practice.

This meditative process yields different results each time, and provides the opportunity to fully explore the medium while mindfully collaborating with the natural world. Create beautiful, one of a kind pieces that can be admired forever, while taking time to slow down and appreciate the richness and diversity of plant color dwelling alongside us as winter transitions to spring!

Material List / Instructor Memo

All materials are provided, including fabric, paper, mordants, printing supplies, and printing materials. I will forage for enough and provide enough plants & pigments for us all to utilize. However, if you'd like to bring some plants and food waste along with you, you are welcome to! Prior to the class, a list of seasonal New England-based suggested plants to forage will be shared as you consider what additional materials you'd like to bring. Please keep in mind that plants often print better when fresh, except for onion skins which are better to use when dry (only the outer layers, both red & yellow), so it's best to pick/cut plants the morning of the class. Dry leaves and flowers also yield pigments and prints, depending on the species (dry Maple & Oak leaves work well)! Please note that most frozen flowers can also be utilized (Marigolds are a great one). If you have something in mind you'd like to try that isn't on this list, bring it along! That is what this process is all about...continual experimentation and learning together.