

An analog collage is a visual representation made from an assembly of different forms, materials and sources to create a new whole. A collage may include newspaper clippings, fabric, bits of colored or hand-made papers, portions of other artwork, photographs, and other images, glued to a solid support or canvas. There are as many styles of collage as there are artists.

Two primary forms are abstract and figurative collage. An abstract collage is built from pictures and images that are distorted in such a way that their origins are not visible anymore. Figurative collages make use of the pictorial meaning of the original pictures and images but are used to create a new image.

In the following step-by-step collage I employ both abstract and figurative techniques.

Step 1: I began this piece with an idea for something nautical. I started with a 12" x 16" black frame fitted with a piece of cardboard.

Step 2: I had a two-inch wide mat that fit between the cardboard and the frame which I wanted to distress with shellac and paint. I sprayed it with watered-down black acrylic after applying a liberal amount of amber shellac, working quickly while the shellac was still very wet. When it dried I scratched into it and drilled holes through the mat until it was the desired patina.

Step 3: Behind this mat I affixed two pieces of black paper of different textures.

Step 4: Next, I tore up some scrap cardboard and pasted it along with some odd bits of magazine pages onto the black ground.

Step 5: Finally, I laid a finely-cut image of a vintage boat, some black wings and cut-outs to the collage to finish it.

Did you make a collage after taking this virtual class?

Send in a photo of your finished collage to [gallery@shorelinearts.net](mailto:gallery@shorelinearts.net)