

Collage: Creating Atmosphere in a Room

Prepared by Renée Brazeau and Priya Andrade, Art Educators, for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia.

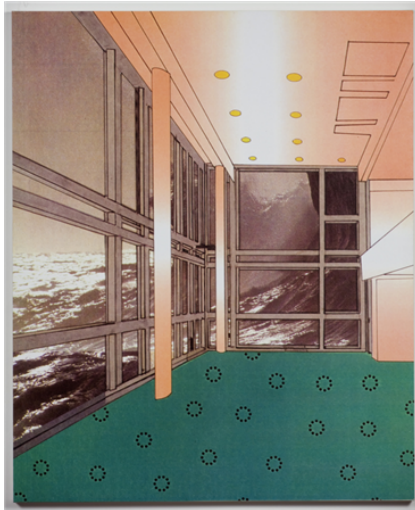
Suggested Grade/Age Levels

Ages 8+

Introduction

Vicky Alexander creates an atmospheric illusion in a room by combining architectural elements like walls, ceilings and floors with images of nature, such as oceans and flowers.

We'll be creating collages that re-imagine interior rooms with exterior elements.



Vicky Alexander, *Stormy Living Room*, 2000.
Archival digital ink jet on canvas laid on board,
123.7 x 101.5 cm. Gift of the Artist,
Vancouver, British Columbia, 2003.



Vicky Alexander, *Sunset and Flowered Carpet*, 2000. Archival
digital ink jet on canvas laid on board, 101.7 x 146.0 cm. Gift of
the Artist, Vancouver, British Columbia, 2003.

Set Up

- Flat surface
- Materials nearby

Materials

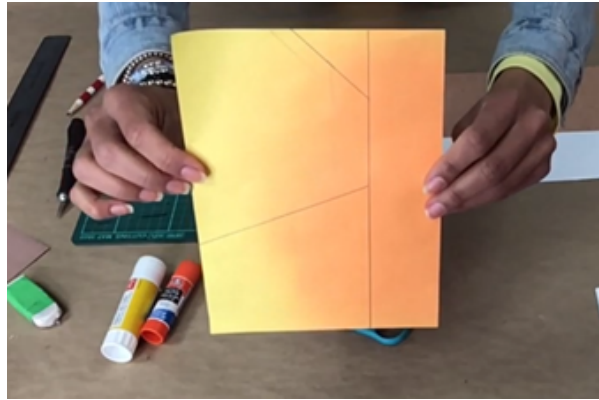
- Paper scraps/magazine clippings/old photos/construction paper/origami paper
- A sheet of paper
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- Ruler
- Exacto knife and cutting mat (With adult assistance)

Process:

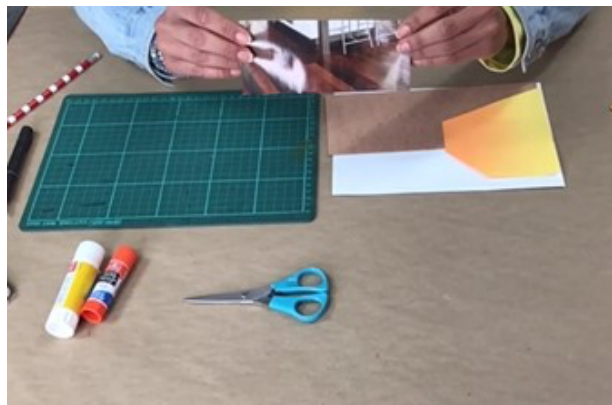
1. Think about what type of atmosphere you want to create in your room. Choose images and colours according to what feeling you want your room to evoke. For example, a calm and peaceful room might have a green colour palette with a rug made out of grass and flowers. Reflect on what colours evoke certain emotions or feelings for you.
2. Find images in old magazines to use in your collage.
3. Frame your room:



- a. **For the floor:** Cut out a rectangle the width of your backing sheet. This should be about half the size of your backing sheet.



- b. **For the side wall:** Using a piece of paper that is the height of your backing sheet, draw two angled lines and one parallel line. Cut this paper out.



- c. **For the ceiling:** Cut out another rectangle approximately the width of your backing sheet.



- d. **For the window background:** Cut out the final rectangle for the window. The short edge should be the same length as the short edge of the angled side wall.

4. Glue down all the parts of the room, starting with the bottom layer.
5. Add details to deepen the perspective in your room. For example, frame your window, add details to the side wall, add light cut outs to your ceiling, or furniture cut outs to your floor.