

## **Challenge for 8 February 2015**

### **Abstraction**

Challenge set by Heather at the AGM to be judged at our Workshop on 8th February 2015. There is a prize of a \$50.00 gift voucher.

### **Abstraction**

Using some portion/s of our Christmas drawing (more details below if you missed it) we were to create:

1. A textile piece of any size, shape and colour
2. With an abstract design taken from the Christmas drawing

These will be judged in February and to be eligible for the prize will require submission of

- the original drawing
- textile work
- 150 to 300 words describing the design process, & 40 to 60 words describing materials and techniques

Design hints: **IMPORTANT Photocopy your original design first and work from the copy/s. Don't try and use the whole drawing, just selected sections.**

1. Using the drawing look for section/s that appeal. Rotate the image and look from each perspective. Appealing sections may currently overlap, and/or be seen from different perspectives
2. Manipulate the chosen area/s. You could use one or more sections. Try
  - a. Mirroring
  - b. Flipping
  - c. Resizing
  - d. Overlaying multiple images
  - e. Splitting the image apart and exploding it
3. Start designing a more complex image with reference to:
  - a. Focal point
  - b. Direction
  - c. Unity
  - d. Repetition
  - e. Balance
  - f. Proportion
  - g. Contrast

#### 4. Remember

- a. “the three bears”
- b. rule of thirds
- c. “L”, “C” or “S”
- d. Use of triangles instead of rule of thirds
- e. Avoid losing your design by letting it “fall” out a corner

5. Plan how you are going to use the image. Will the design be complete in itself or are you going to use the image as part of something else so you can get some idea of the required size and shape. Do you have an empty frame ready to be used? Don't forget to leave space for a matt board. If you get stuck return to your design principles and review the image point by point to work out what is and what isn't working so you have some idea of what to alter first.

Now to the drawing:

If you were not at the Christmas party and want to do a drawing you will need to just follow the instructions and NOT read to the end first.

1. Assemble a piece of A4 paper, a watercolour marker, a stiff surface to support the drawing not much bigger than the paper. Check the marker works. You won't need multiple colours, just one.
2. You are going to draw the following items in the order given, but you are not going to be able to see your drawing as you create it. The aim of the exercise is to provide some random shapes that can then be manipulated for the abstract image. **There are big spaces below, before and between the items on the list on purpose.**
3. Put the paper on the support and place it on top of your head. Now draw each item as it appears in the list, before you remove the paper and look at it.
4. You are making a landscape and there are some clouds in the sky
5. In the foreground there is a tree. Draw the trunk, some branches and foliage.
6. There is a range of hills on the horizon
7. In the middle ground there is a lake
8. Behind the lake there is line of trees. You are now finished. Take the support and paper off your head and take a look. The image shouldn't be recognisable but you should have some lovely shapes to work with.

Heather Morton