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VISUAL STUDIES WORKSHOPSPRING 2023 WORKSHOPS

Handmade Film, Virtual Reality, Book Making, 16mm Film, Coding for Poets, Projection, Flatgames, Group Critique, Video Preservation and more







Handmade Film

Create a 16mm film without using a camera! Using direct techniques such as drawing, painting, scratching and dyeing, participants will create a unique visual experience to be seen at 24 frames per second. Participants may also incorporate footage found in the archives to create a true collage of sound, image and texture. We will also explore options for collaging 35mm slides using a variety of found materials. Participants will use real film projectors to show their work to a live audience in the VSW microcinema at the end of the course. Materials provided. Additional studio hours will be provided.

Five Wednesday Evenings (January 25, February 1, 8, 15, 22) 6:00-9:00pm, \$300, \$255 for VSW members Instructor: Mary Lewandowski



Make Your Own World: Intro to Virtual Reality

Students who take this course will create their own basic digital world that can be experienced with a VR headset. Students will gain an introduction to the Unity game-engine and have hands-on experience with Oculus Quest 2 headsets. This course is intended for artists, poets, and creatives with little or no programming or coding experience. Limited to 5 students. In-person at VSW.

Four Tuesday Evenings (February 7, 14, 21, 28) 6:00-8:00pm, \$300, \$255 for VSW members Instructor: Nilson Carroll



Making Books

For artists and writers interested in producing books and self-publishing, use the full range of resources from VSW Press to make books from your own imagery, texts, and ideas. Each monthly studio session will include basic demonstrations, discussions, skill-shares, and access to specific examples for imaging, making dummies, using page layout software, basic typography, sequence, editing, printing, binding, and other creation methods. Come prepared with images and/or texts or directly create them in the studio each month. Collaborate with others on book projects, get critiques, and learn independent publishing tips.

Included are additional weekly open studio times with the instructor or assistants present; printing expenses for edition sizes 10 and under; basic papers; and binding supplies. Additional costs for larger editions or unique materials may be required depending on your own ideas and projects. No previous experience with bookmaking is required.

Four Saturday Afternoons (Feb 11, March 11, April 8, May 13) 1:00-4:00pm, \$400, \$340 for VSW members Instructor: Tate Shaw

Muybridge Deconstructed: 16mm to Still Image

Star in your very own Muybridge motion study! Learn the history behind these early motion studies and the critical role they played in bridging photographic technologies with proto-cinematic devices, then enter the VSW studio to capture your own 'motion study' on B/W 16mm film. From there we will develop the film by hand, mount the strips into a negative tray, print a still photographic sheet of your study, develop, dry and frame it under glass for you to take home and share with friends and family.



One Saturday Afternoon (February 25) 10:00am - 4:00pm, \$100, \$85 for VSW members Led by the Mono no Aware film collective

When Artists Go In: Virtual Critique Group (online)

This workshop is for photo-based makers who want to improve their works in progress through honest, critical and constructive feedback from outside eyes. Hernease Davis and one guest artist will facilitate group discussion for each session. Between each meeting, participants will have a month to make work that considers and incorporates the critique's feedback. All types of photography are welcome. If you are mixing mediums such as sculpture, video, writing, etc, that is welcome too. The purpose of this workshop is to help you raise the level of your photo practice in a supportive environment. Be prepared to share your works in progress on the first day.



4 Monday evenings Monthly (Feb 27, March 27, April 24, May 15) 6:00-8:30pm, \$300 (\$255 for VSW Members) Led by Hernease Davis + Guest

Small Gauge Film Projection Workshop

Have you ever wondered if that old projector in your family's basement still works? Are you interested in learning more about projecting 16mm and 8mm film? This afternoon workshop will introduce you to the basics of small gauge (16mm and 8mm) film projection, and provide a hands-on demonstration of how to identify, operate and maintain moving image projectors. Limited to 8 people. In-person at VSW.



One Saturday Afternoon (March 4) 1:00-4:00pm, \$75, \$65 for VSW members Instructors: Tara Nelson and Mary Lewandowski

In-person workshops take place at VSW, located at 31 Prince Street, Rochester, NY in the Neighborhood of the Arts. VSW workshop facilities are wheelchair accessible. Class sizes are limited. For more info, visit VSW.ORG.



16mm Filmmaking

This workshop explores the unique and powerful language of silent black and white 16mm film. Students will learn production techniques that explore the capabilities of emulsion-based moving images, and experiment with hand processing motion picture film in the darkroom. Each student will create their own silent 16mm films, and project their work to a live audience at the end of the semester. Workshop fee includes 1 roll of film and darkroom supplies.

Five Tuesday Evenings (March 7, 14, 21, 28, and April 4) 6:00-9:00pm, \$400, \$340 for VSW members Instructor: Tara Merenda Nelson



Make a Flatgame (online)

A flatgame is a simple, 2D, hand-drawn game world for telling short stories, recalling dreams, and exploring textures. The flatgame is made with little coding, and is an accessible way to make small, handmade digital experiences. In this workshop, we will play games, learn how they were made, and share with each other. No experience is needed.

One Monday Evening (March 20) 6:00-9:00pm, \$25, \$20 for VSW members Instructor: Nilson Carroll



Coding for Artists and Poets (online)

Create your own website from scratch and learn how to tell digital hypertext stories that you can share online. Students will gain a basic understanding of HTML and CSS through a creative workflow and learn how to use Github and the freeware hypertext tool Twine. This course is intended for artists, poets, and creatives with little or no programming or coding experience. There will be an emphasis on storytelling, puzzle-making, image sequencing, and personal histories.

Four Tuesday Evenings (April 11, April 18, April 25, May 2) 6:00-8:00pm, \$300, \$255 for VSW members Instructor: Nilson Carroll



Video Preservation Workshop

This one-day crash course on magnetic media preservation will serve as an introduction to caring for video tapes, preparing them for transfer, and the digitization process. Students will witness the transfer process from beginning to end. Tape formats discussed (but not limited to) include half-inch open reel, U-matic, Betamax, VHS, and Hi8. This workshop will be held in the VSW Conversion Lab. Limited seating.

One Saturday Afternoon (April 29) 1-5pm, \$75, \$65 for VSW members Instructor: Nilson Carroll