20. **Designing Multiple Images**

Materials:
- Ruler
- Multiple references of the subject
- Collage papers (optional)

This type of abstraction entails designing space so that the separate elements selected as your subject work as one. Pick a theme like seasons, flowers, a special place, butterflies, etc and start placing the images together. Keep in mind the transitional areas and connecting shapes and lines must work together. Usually the key to a successful multiple space image is unified color and movement.

This style of abstraction entails designing space so the painting portrays multiple interpretations of a similar subject. Pick any theme like cycles of a flower or butterflies, seasons, rocks, reflections or water. The challenge is to paint with directional movement that flows within believable boundaries so the piece does not look patched together.

Most of these paintings are from multiple sources, such as photographs, life, memory, imagination and now the internet. Embrace this diversity, you need to break away from the comfortable and familiar route. Take some risks and enjoy the freedom to design your paintings in several segments that work together.

Guidelines to achieve a sense of unity in your design

1. Connecting lines of movement. (Show Drawing)
2. Varying size of relationships. (Show how to break up the space)
3. Balance shapes, such as positive next to negative, realistic next to abstract.
4. Work on transitional areas so they connect naturally
5. Do a unifying color start. (Focus of light). Place tape first.
6. Contrast. Design smooth surfaces next to textured, busy next to quiet, darks next to lights, cools next to warm, soft next to crisp. (Add cut shapes of collage and add to painting)

7. Use lost and found edges. Allow some edges to disappear and lead the eye to the adjoining area by using similar values next to each other or by leaving a rest area.

8. Connecting linear shapes. This provides directional movement and rhythmic patterns that entertain as well as guide the viewer from lone shape to another.

Draw your subject. (Birch trees and rocks)

Wet the paper and place collage papers and color freely over the subject.

After the paper dries, glue down the collage papers ad allow to dry again.

Tape the picture into segments.

Finish with hard edges.

1. Designing a landscape theme. In this lesson, I plan to combine organic, as well as geometric elements. This combination creates wonderful visual tension. I chose birch trees for my vertical shapes and rocks for my horizontal shapes to interlock and integrate the composition.

2. Watercolor and drawing. I have always loved this look of areas left as a drawing and other areas painted.

3. Watercolor and watercolor pencils

Gallery:

Karen Knutson