

**Micaela Seidel**

## **GRUNGE TECHNIQUE: LibrosWorkshop (Sept 4 2015)**

### **Demo**

Ecodye with plants: soak paper in alum or vinegar. Wrap fresh plants and leaves inside and flatten in between ceramic tiles. Tie shut. Steam for two hours in dedicated turkey roaster with rack. Add tea to water for dark color. (tannins)

Ecodye with rust: Spray paper with vinegar. Place pieces of rusted metal on top and spray more. Place in large open plastic bag for several days. If it dries out continue spraying with water or vinegar.

Tea, Coffee and Turmeric Paper: Soak paper in treated water. Dry in oven on low heat

### **Resist Techniques**

#### 1) Bleach with objects

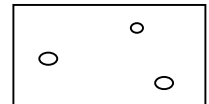
Dip various materials in solution of ½ bleach and ½ water. Lay on black cardstock. Leave there while doing other projects. When it looks the way you want paint with solution of 1 part vinegar and 2 parts water. Blot dry. Try it on different colored cardstocks, papers, and watercolor papers.

Alternate: Use leaves or paper cutouts as silhouettes. Sponge bleach over them.

Accordion sample is on black watercolor paper.

#### 2) Simple stone buffed background

Paint overall with medium tone paint. Rub off with baby wipe. Add bits of white. Rub off. Add bits of a darker tone of original color. Wipe off. (You only need two or three drops of white paint and it should be rubbed only in its own area not on entire surface. **You do not want to cover the first layer completely but are only lightening spots of it.** Same goes for the added dark tone. )



### **Additive Techniques**

3) Foil tape. (HVAC from Home Depot) Emboss **deeply** with ballpoint pen or dull pencil. Paint with gesso making sure not to erase your embossed image. When dry rub in a very light coat of thinned black acrylic then gold acrylic. (or use dye inks for this part)

Alternate: Imbed or stamp with string. Let dry. Polish with dye or acrylic.

4) Thick Gesso on black background. (either an undercoat of black or use black card) Apply Gesso thickly. Let dry slightly. Make marks with stick down to the black. Let dry. Rub with thinned brown or rusty looking mixture or dyes)

#### 5) Masking Tape and acrylic (this can resemble wood)

Apply strips of masking tape to surface. Paint first layer. Wipe off excess leaving some color on tape. Let dry. Add subsequent layers of tape and different colors of acrylic, wiping tape off in between.

## **Plastic Wrap Resist**

6) Plastic wrap resist and acrylic

Paint surface. Apply plastic wrap. It should be bunched up slightly. Let dry. Pull off. When totally dry rub with metallic and dark accents.

Alternate: Paint surface with various colors and proceed as above.

Alternate: Use only white paint. Proceed as above. After paint is dry and plastic is removed, rub with various colors to bring out the patterns left by the bunched up plastic.

## **Other resist experiments (with various success)**

7) Alcohol resist and acrylic

Paint surface with light coat of acrylic. While still wet. Drip alcohol onto it. Let dry. Blot.

8) Soap resist and acrylic

Paint surface with wet paint. Drip soapy water onto it. Blot or wipe dry.

9) Salt resist and acrylic (big **fail** for me)

Paint surface with wet paint

Sprinkle with salt. Let dry. Crunch off salt. (supposed to leave dots and marks but I had no luck with this one. Apparently you can also use the salt over and it will leave colored dots)

## **Additive techniques**

10) Paint layer. Let dry. Add contrasting color. Let dry. Sand off (this works better on a glossy surface)

11) Pulled paper. Glue image to surface. Let dry. Peel off layers of paper. Coat with acrylic medium. Add more layers and images. Tearing off paper and coating in between.

Alternate: glue image face down. You can get a full image transfer by peeling off all the paper if you leave it long enough.

12) Polymer medium with coffee or tea. (I did not try this one yet)

13) Aluminum foil. Glue napkins to it. Scrunch up. Add paint. When it is dry you can either leave the aluminum foil on the back or just have a paint and paper skin.

Reference: Surface Treatment Workshop: Explore 45 Mixed Media Techniques  
Darlene Olivia McElroy and Sandra Duran Wilson

Facebook Pages for Eco Dye:

Eco-dyeing Creating and Learning (people share images of dyeing experiments in paper and cloth)

Printing Nature (people share images and processes of dyeing)