

BE THE ARTIST

Collage Art and Mark Bradford



Mark Bradford is a contemporary abstract artist from Los Angeles. He makes very large abstract paintings using paper. He also finds paper posters, as well as words he sees and hears, and incorporates them into his art. Bradford believes using materials meant for construction and from our day-to-day lives says more about the world that we live in than using traditional art supplies.

Supplies

- Plain paper
- Two or more pictures from old magazines or mail advertisements
- Scissors
- Glue stick

Instructions

- Cut each picture into strips. If you see words that catch your eye, cut them out, too.
- Place the strips onto your plain paper, overlapping some and spacing some out. Play with the layout until you have something you really like. You can try separating the strips or put two different photos together into one picture.
- Once you have something that pleases you, glue it in place.
- Perhaps cut out a word that you like out and place it over or between the strips.
- Keep adding layers (Mark Bradford's paintings have 30-40 layers).



Want to create more?

Take your collage art up a notch and add crayon over it, or try tearing or peeling some of the paper away so that the background becomes more entwined with the foreground. Try adding fabric or labels from containers. Bradford soaks and power washes his artwork to get more texture and to see more evidence of a past history.

Send a photo of your project to mycreation@skokielibrary.info and we may feature it on social media.

