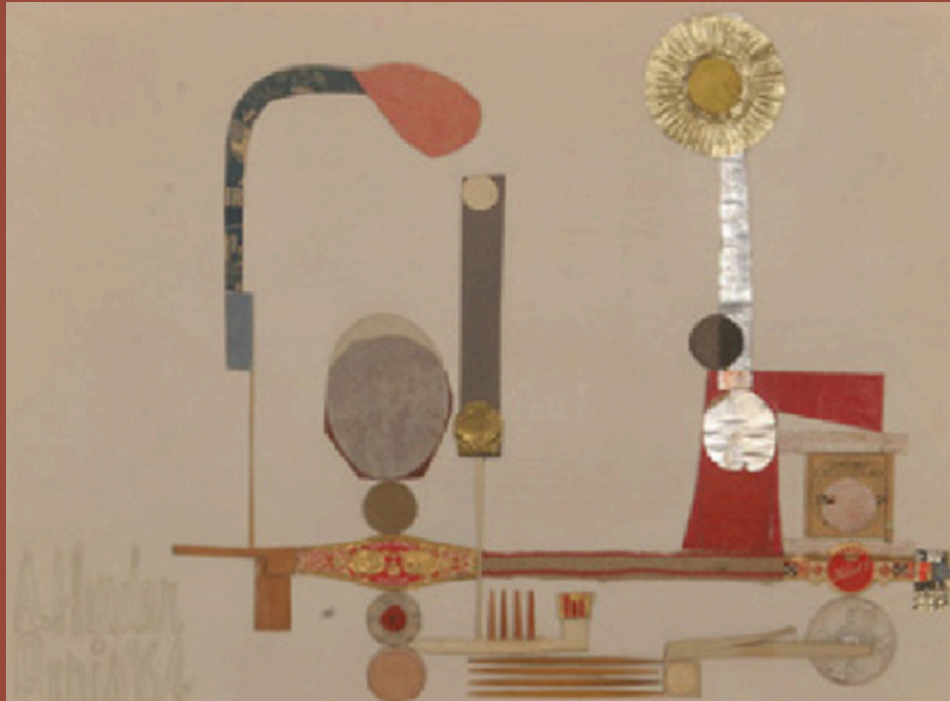


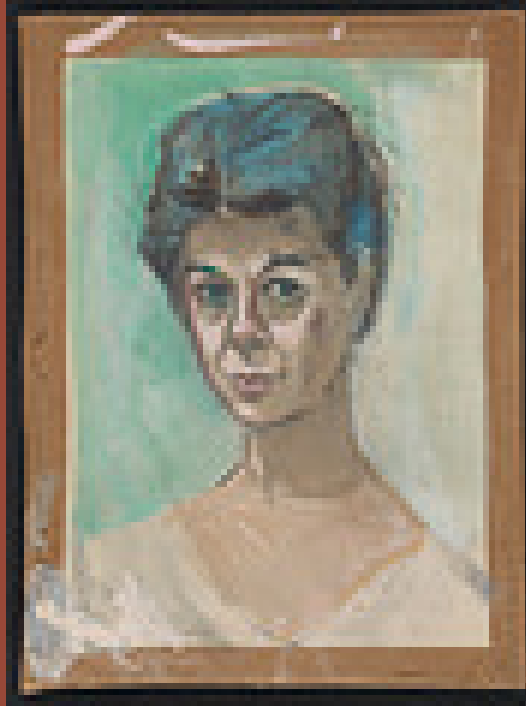
FROST ART MUSEUM



Circus Wagon

THE TEACHER RESOURCE PACKET

THE ARTIST



Addie Herder

Addie Herder created small-scale collages for which she relied on compositional principles of balance and dynamism. These rigorous, found paper compositions earned the artist well-deserved respect from other artists, dealers, and collectors. Although Herder's work invites comparisons with well-known artists like Joseph Cornell, she eschewed prevailing 20th-century artistic trends such as painterly abstraction, minimalism, and conceptualism.

@frostartmuseum

Addie Herder: Machines for Living

This exhibition celebrates the dynamic small-scale abstractions of Addie Herder (1920–2009). Known for her collages, Herder’s imaginative compositions often function in between two- and three-dimensional spaces. Often through careful manipulation of found paper, the artist re-imagined form and meaning in her own intricately crafted vignettes. Herder’s rigorous yet delicate assemblage works recall the works of artists Louise Nevelson (1899–1988) and Joseph Cornell (1903–1972).

The exhibition will include three sections. The first section features the artist’s earliest works, decalcomanias, dated from the 1950s. This section will focus on the artist’s emphasis on wholly abstract compositions. The second, and main section for the exhibition will focus on the artist’s intimate collages. These works date from the late 1950s to the 2000s, while most of the works in this section date from the 1960s to the 1970s, some of these works were referred to by the artist as machines. The third section of the exhibition examines the artist’s collage constructions in shadow boxes. These works from the 1970s and 1980s suggest stage and architectural sets.

Herder studied at the Tyler School of Art in Philadelphia and lived in New York for many years, establishing a stable income through design work. She counted Jell-O among her clients. Herder lived in Paris from 1963 to 1974 before returning to New York. Although her work has been positively reviewed in *The New York Times* by Roberta Smith and she received a survey at the Neuberger Museum in Purchase, N.Y., she remains widely unknown. Her works are found in the following museum collections: Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Neuberger Museum, and the Hirshhorn Museum, among others.

Many women abstract artists working in New York during the twentieth century did not receive the attention of their male counterparts. Moreover, prevailing ideas of Abstract Expressionism and Minimalism often privileged large-scale works, as opposed to the more intimate and delicate paper forms created by Herder. While art history often tends to focus on a few names, the Frost Art Museum is committed to expanding the narrative of twentieth-century art through its presentation of this underrecognized artist. This exhibition offers a special opportunity to introduce Herder’s work to South Florida audiences.



Circus Wagon

Collage construction, 1964

Estrellita and Daniel Brodsky Collection

In *Circus Wagon*, Herder uses found materials such as cigar labels, aluminum wrappers, and toothpicks to create forms that reference pulleys, conveyor belts, wheels, gears, and overhead lights. Her use of millimeters-wide cut elements demonstrates an almost scientific approach to collage making, one that might urge viewers to lean in and uncover the overall organizing principle. Although abstract, many of Herder's collage constructions borrow from the formal language of machinery, where various individual components come together to combine power and perform an action. Herder's use of found materials echoes the Cubists who incorporated mass produced print materials into their works of art.



Madrid

Collage construction, ca. 1981

Collection of Daniel Perron and Jonathan Hogg

Herder traveled and read widely and absorbed these influences into her collaged forms. She visited several European countries, including Portugal, Belgium, The Netherlands, Austria, France, Italy, Germany, England, Scotland, and Spain. The notion of place emanates strongly in her work. While certain works evoke specific places, as with this work Madrid, others are more ambiguous. Even when Herder refers to a particular place, an air of mystery regarding the specific location remains.

ARCHITECTURAL STORY COLLAGE

Essential Questions:

1. How do I identify various attributes of moments in time within my life?
2. What is layering?
3. How can we transform memories into architectural works of art?

Discuss:

Discuss the environmental message depicted in Addie Herder's work and the focus on decalomania (the art or process of transferring pictures and designs from specially prepared paper (as to glass). Her work also depicts abstraction, machines, and intimate moments in life created on a small scale. Discuss a moment in time of your life that you remember.

Connect:

Visit, tour, and discuss the works in the Addie Herder: Machines for Living exhibition. Use the Close Looking questions and expand on these intricate and didactic works.

Studio Experience: Architectural Story Collage

Have the students view works by Addie Herder and discuss the artist's approach to 20th-century art, her take on collage, assemblage, found paper compositions, and deviation from the artistic trends of that century.

Materials:

Buttons Cardboard Cardstock Drawings/Sketches Fabric Found Objects
Handmade Paper Glue Glue Sticks Magazines Manipulated Paper Markers
Newspapers Personal Items Photographs Handmade Paper Poster Board
Scissors Stamps String Transparencies Tape Transfers Tissue Paper Toothpicks

Step 1: Select a Theme

Have students select a theme that supports a moment in time in their life. Perhaps a vacation, a family event, or a significant event in their life such as winning a competition or an award.

Step 2: Brainstorm

Have students brainstorm the imagery related to the event (s). Have them answer the following questions: What is your favorite color? What is your favorite place to be? List (3) things that are interesting or unique to you.

Step 3: Collect Imagery

Have students search for imagery in magazines, newspapers, old photo albums, books, at their homes, and on the internet and challenge them to look in unexpected places.

Step 4: Create the Collage

Once the students have collected a variety of items, it's time to collage. Students can lay out their imagery on poster board, cardboard, or a box. Ensure students do not glue the imagery until they have created several possible layouts.

Step 5: The Details

Have students add details with wire, buttons, fabric, found objects, thread, and wire.

Assessment: Write a poem or story to support your architectural story collage. Group Critique, have students participate in a group critique using TAG: T – Tell the Artists Something You Like; A – Ask the Artist a Question; G – Give the Artist a Suggestion. Have the students read their poems and stories and describe their collages.

Artist Connections: Compare and contrast the works of Addie Herder with other prominent collage artists such as/but not limited to Romare Bearden, Mark Bradford, Georges Braque, Joseph Cornell, Max Ernst, Yayoi Kusama, Henri Matisse, Louise Nevelson, Pablo Picasso, Robert Rauschenberg, Miriam Shapiro, and Kara Walker.

EDUCATION ACTIVITY

Art Vocabulary: Architectural, Assemblage, Collage, Decalcomania, Decoupage, Layer, Memory, Mixed Media, Monochromatic, Overlap, Decalcomania and Photomontage.

Content Vocabulary: classify, group, organize,

Elements of Art and Principles of Design: Color, Contrast, Form, Shape and Symmetry

STEAM Connections: Discuss recycling, upcycling, sustainability, environmental responsibility, study of life cycles, engineer a digital collage, explore geographical regions, and correlate these ideas with the art of making collage.

Language Arts Connections: Write a poem inspired by your collage. ELA.2-5. R.1.4, ELA.6-8.R.1.4, and ELA.9-12.R.1.4

Benchmarks: VA.2-5.C.1.1, VA.2-5.C.2.3, VA.2-5.O.1.1, VA.2-5.O.3.1, VA.2-5.F.2.1, VA.2-5.F.1.2, VA.4-5.S.1.3, VA.4-5.C.1.1, VA.68.C.1.1, VA.68.C.2.4, VA.68.C.3.3, VA.68.S.2.3, VA.912.C.2.1, VA.912.S.2.6, and VA.912.S.2.2

Resources:

[Addie Herder: Machines for Living](#)

[Between the Folds](#)

[How to Make a Collage – Mr. Otter’s Studio \(Elementary\)](#)

This is a teacher resource packet intended for elementary through high school students. For more educational resources, please visit:
<https://frost.fiu.edu/learn/schools-teachers/index.html>