

## UStP Guest Print Program: Preparing for Composition with Sue Michael

Union St Printmakers @ Union Street Studios, 2 Union St, Stepney SA

Saturday 23 October 2021  
10.30am-4.30pm

A one-day collage workshop, emphasizing the evolution of compositions, with guest artist [Sue Michael](#)... Planning is so important in printmaking... more so than other processes where images can be stitched together on the fly, as the work progresses. With this in mind, it is useful to learn how to refine the open-ended nature of preparatory sketching, moving shapes confidently within a composition, clarifying habitual patterns and experimenting with degrees of spatial cluttering. Collage allows a radical playfulness to ideas and design, before ever touching a plate. Please join us for a rigorous and fun play-date with paper... to collage, design and refine with a fierce and comprehensive awareness of composition.

Sue began formal studies in art in 1996, learning printmaking, photography and painting, culminating in a 2018 Visual Art PhD concerning *place studies for artists*. Her printmaking skills have evolved through a shift to non-toxic materials and working at home without a press. Sue champions using what is available at home and from the op shop. She is a truly unique being... behind her playful and wonky approach to prints and paintings lies the heart of a CWA maker and the nous of a serious scholar. You are going to just LOVE her workshop!

You can catch a glimpse of the diverse nature of Sue's work here [www.instagram.com/soodiorama](http://www.instagram.com/soodiorama) and here [www.westgallerythebarton.com.au/sue-michael](http://www.westgallerythebarton.com.au/sue-michael).

- Class size: Maximum 6-8 people
- Suitable for: Beginners and more experienced artists and printmakers
- Workshop fee: \$180 per person, \$160 for return students (incl GST)
- Includes: All materials (but BYO scissors & glustick if you have favourites)  
Process notes and materials list  
Light lunch via Zambreros Uber Eats  
Studio tea, plunger coffee and bikkies/fruit  
Certificate of Completion for teachers
- Please wear: Old clothes, your apron, gloves and enclosed sturdy shoes



For further information:

### Union St Printmakers

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[www.unionstprintmakers.com](http://www.unionstprintmakers.com)  
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### Videos:

<https://vimeo.com/192318370>  
<https://vimeo.com/169206319>

Cancellation policy: A partial refund may be given at the Studio's discretion for extraordinary circumstances and cancellation up to one (1) week prior to the workshop. No refunds will be given for cancellations within five (5) business days of the date of Guest Print Program workshops.



## Preparing Compositions

It can be reassuring to plot out the shapes, prior to beginning a print. We will use painted coloured paper, cardboard models, and a few magazine images to push shapes around on various formats, whilst learning the nuances of composition. We will draw upon the overlooked work of early photographer William Mortensen, using his book *The Command to Look: A Formula for Picture Success*, first published in 1937. He forwards four basic approaches that may assist an art audience to connect to your work...in a sort of primal, intuitive way. This approach can be applied to all mediums, all scales, and all styles of image making, from abstract expressions to finely detailed studies. It will be a more cut and paste session than one of actual drawing. We will also explore ways to enjoy stillness and intuitive insights when seeking inspiration. There is an aim to assist in stepping away from the outer world, whilst connecting, securely, to things of interest.

Provided: Working surface, thick paper stock, pre-painted paper stock, scrapbooking papers, coloured card, a small cardboard model room with magazine cut outs, non-toxic and acid free paper glue, spare fine scissors, lead pencils and a Powerpoint presentation of theoretical examples.

**DATE:** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2021

**TIME:** 10am-4.30pm

**MATERIALS/TOOLS** please bring: Your own favoured sharp scissors, ruler, glue, apron, sketchbook for notes etc.

**COST:** \$180 (discounted to \$160 for repeat UStP offenders)

For more information about the workshop, Sue Michael via [smichael@westnet.com.au](mailto:smichael@westnet.com.au)

All bookings via Simone Tippett / Union St Printmakers via [simone@unionstprintmakers.com](mailto:simone@unionstprintmakers.com)