Cartoon Collage Inspired by Kevin Snipes

Kevin Snipes makes his debut at RAM in the new exhibition, *In the Round: Vessels and Sculpture from RAM’s Collection*. The artist combines his love of creating unconventional pottery with a desire to draw on everything that he makes. As an African American ceramic artist, Snipes notes that people often expect black figures to populate his work. To deal with this expectation on his own terms, he investigates the concepts of duality and otherness, using the multiple sides of his pieces as metaphors for differing perspectives. In celebration of Black History Month, create your own cartoon collage inspired by Kevin Snipe’s pieces entitled, *Numb Skull* and *Hooz Yer Mammy*.

Kevin Snipes
*Numb Skull*, 2012
Glazed porcelain
8 1/2 x 4 x 3 1/2 inches
Racine Art Museum, Gift of David and Jacqueline Charak
Photography: Jon Bolton

Kevin Snipes
*Hooz Yer Mammy*, 2012
Glazed Porcelain
9 x 2 1/2 x 4 inches
Racine Art Museum, Gift of David and Jacqueline Charak
Photography: Jon Bolton
Supplies

- Newspaper, magazines, photographs, decorative paper
- Thick paper (for background)
- Scissors
- Glue
- Pencil
- Black Sharpie
- Clear tape

Instructions

1. Begin by collecting collage materials from around your home, such as newspapers, magazines, photographs, old drawings, decorative papers, etc.

2. Use the scissors to cut out imagery you want to use in your piece.

3. Assemble and move the images around on the blank background paper to get a sense of the composition you want to create.

4. Glue down the images onto the blank piece of paper, layering them on top of each other to create a dynamic background.

5. Use a pencil to sketch out and continue some of the images you have glued down. Think about extending your character’s features or adding extra graphics and pictographs to make your composition more animated.

6. Trace over your drawings using a black sharpie to create emphasis on facial features, create patterns, and detail the composition with additional text.
7. Use the scissors to cut away the top portion of the collage. Follow the lines of any imagery you glued on to create an abstracted line form.

8. Tri-fold the collage into three sections running the longest way of the paper collage. Use a piece of clear tape to stick the ends together in order to create a standing paper sculpture.

Example of project