

## At Home Zero Waste Printmaking Inspired by Sam Gilliam

Sam Gilliam is one of the great innovators in post-World War II American painting. He emerged in Washington, DC, in the mid-1960s as part of the Washington Color School. This group consisted of artists who developed a form of abstract art from color field painting. Gilliam is recognized as the first artist to push the boundaries of painting by working with a draped and painted canvas that would hang without stretcher bars. Take inspiration from his collograph print entitled *Bardstown*, and create your own abstract print using materials you have at home.



Sam Gilliam

Bardstown, 1976

Color collograph on handmade paper, edition 20/25

22 x 22 inches

Racine Art Museum

Gift of Karen Henrietta Keland

Photography: Jon Bolton

## **Supplies**

- Paint
- Markers
- Cardboard
- Found objects, recycling materials (ex. Styrofoam, plastic, bolts, screws, bottle caps)
- Paper towel
- White paper or white fabric
- Hair dryer (to speed up drying time)



## Instructions

- 1. Gather your materials and setup your printing station. Leave yourself extra room and cover your table if you are worried about making a mess!
- 2. Use scrap cardboard to create a rolling plate. Pour small amounts of paint onto the flat cardboard piece and spread it out.
- 3. Begin with the background of your abstract print. Choose an item, press it into a paint color of your choice and stamp the design onto the paper. Repeat this multiple times to create a background.
- 4. Choose another item and a different paint color. Use a hair dryer to dry the background image, if needed. Continue stamping and printing different shapes using different colors over the background design. This will create dimension within the print.
- 5. Continue switching objects and paint colors. Use the hair dryer in between colors to speed up drying time.
- 6. Once your print is completely dry, use markers to add accents and intricate details to the print.



**Project Sample** 







