

BOWDOIN COLLEGE MUSEUM OF ART

Collages by Romare Bearden

- OCTOBER 01, 2009 – DECEMBER 20, 2009
- Focus Gallery

An intimate show of original collages by Romare Bearden that complements the sweeping exhibition *From Process to Print: Graphic Works by Romare Bearden* also on view in the Museum during the fall of 2009.



Subject: *Arts & Humanities,*
Technology,
Social Sciences,
U.S. History

Grade: *3-5, 6-8, 9-12*

Brief Description

Students create collages in the style of African American artist Romare Bearden.

Objectives

Students

- define the word *collage*,*
- learn about African American artist Romare Bearden,*
- view examples of collages by Romare Bearden,*
- create a collage following the examples of Romare Bearden.*

Keywords

collage, artist, Romare Bearden, African American

Materials Needed

- old magazines and newspapers*
- teacher-selected print resources about Romare Bearden or printouts from the sites listed in the lesson*
- overhead projector*
- different colored construction paper*
- scissors*
- glue or paste*

- computers with Internet access and color printer or print resources about Romare Bearden and pictures of his collages

Lesson Plan

- Discuss the meaning of the word *collage* from [ArtLex: Collage](#).
- Explain that one famous African American artist who often used the collage technique was Romare Bearden. Read aloud selected background information about Bearden from this [Romare Bearden biography](#).

Show students examples of Bearden's work from art books or from one or more of the following sites. Or, if a color printer is available, print out some examples from one or more of the sites.

[The Art of Romare Bearden](#)

[A Graphic Odyssey: Romare Bearden as Printmaker](#) [Bearden](#)

[Social Activism: Romare Bearden](#)

[ArtCyclopedia: Romare Bearden](#)

- Discuss some of the themes and items in Bearden's collages. Explain that he used a variety of materials in his collages, including items cut from magazines and newspapers.
- Distribute the old magazines and newspapers you saved. Distribute the art materials.
- Have students create their own collages following the examples on display.

Assessment

Evaluate students' participation and completed collages.