

## Summer intensive 2010

At the start of a project (work of art) a student usually focuses solely on the subject matter (object) and too often ignores or gives little thought to the placement of the subject (objects) and the surrounding space around the object/subject. The purpose of this class was to have the students become aware of the importance the surrounding space/background and the essential role it has in relation to the subject. Van Gogh is the perfect instructional artist because of the clarity of idea and the boldness in which he expresses the idea of a congruent subject/object and ground relationship into a unified idea of painting/art. In Van Gogh's work it is easy to see the compositional rhythm that flows throughout the painting or the juxtaposition of the curvilinear subject in contrast to a static background as well as see the linear form he creates with his brush stroke. Van Gogh gives equal consideration to every part of his artwork and in doing so creates a unified whole, a complete composition.

The goal is not to copy Van Gogh but to learn from the way Van Gogh sees and thinks about composition. By switching and translating from Van Gogh's paint medium to a print medium the students will have to focus on how to construct a rhythmic composition that will keep the eye flowing throughout the entire work of art. The end goal is to change the way the student both sees and thinks about a work of art and changes their approach to the making of their own art.

The following works will be grouped by artist. I will begin with the Van Gogh source followed by the student's drawing on paper, drawing on linoleum and the progression of print stages to the final black and white print along with the student's exploration of color and varied mediums used in printing.





























