

SPENCER BOHREN SHADOWBOX WORKSHOP

MATERIALS LIST

1. SMALL BOX - Cigar boxes are ideal, but any similar box will work as long as the sides are fairly strong. These can typically be found around the house, although second-hand stores and smoke shops are excellent resources.

2. COLLAGE MATERIALS - Magazines like *Smithsonian* and *National Geographic* tend to provide the best images for creating a proper atmosphere for the artwork. Old books, maps, sheet music, newspapers and so forth can also be used. The important thing is to have enough variety to entice each budding artist. I will bring a plentiful supply of images with me.

3. WHITE GLUE - This is the classic "school glue," like Elmer's, although I find the least expensive brands work best. The glue is diluted about one-quarter with water. In a perfect world, each student has his or her own small squeeze bottle, replenished from a larger container.

4. FOUND OBJECTS - Any object that resonates with the artist and fits inside the box is appropriate. Natural items work well. These can be sticks, rocks, seeds, seashells, insects, fossils, bones, feathers, and so on. Discarded keys, jewelry, beads, marbles, buttons and bottle caps are also good. Perhaps the class can go on a walk to find "art supplies" near the school grounds and give them practice at "seeing" in a new way.

Workshops can vary in size from a few students to twenty or more. High school and university sessions are available and will involve two days of class, so the glue can dry adequately. A community shadowbox workshop deserves three hours, allowing time to discuss techniques, materials, and artistic philosophy, before beginning work on the boxes themselves. Ideally, participants will bring a small box or two, along with an assortment of mementos or objects that resonate with them. Spencer will provide a supply of paper images from magazines and books, and the presenter will provide supplementary materials. Appropriate table space is a must.

A visit to <http://www.spencerbohren.com/artwork> will give students a point of reference for artistic possibilities.