Floral Memory Collage

Personal memories are often a central theme for artists. Drawing inspiration from artist Kaoru Mansour, whose work is featured in the special exhibition *We Are Here: Contemporary Art and Asian Voices in Los Angeles*, we will be creating collages with pressed flowers, foliage, and personal photographs to create a floral memory collage.

![Floral Memory Collage](image)

You can learn more about the artist and virtually visit the exhibition on the museum website: [https://pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/exhibitions/current/](https://pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/exhibitions/current/)

**Prompts for Looking at Art:**

Take a look at the images below of Kaoru Mansour's work and consider the following questions:

- Do you recognize any of the materials used?
- How are the individual elements arranged to create a new image?
- What do you think the relationship is between the people in the artworks and the artist?
- What feelings are sparked for you when looking at these artworks?
Kaoru Mansour
*Candy and Rain*, 2019
Paint and mixed media on canvas
Courtesy of the artist

Kaoru Mansour
*Secculant_Hei Myung*
60"x36"
Mixed media on canvas
2018
What is a collage? A collage is an artwork made by gluing materials such as paper onto another surface. It comes from the French word coller, which means “to glue”.

Questions to Inspire Your Artwork:
- Who are some of the people you cherish the most?
- What are some of your favorite memories of them? Do you have photos of those memories?
- Do you have any favorite flowers or plants you would like to preserve?

Materials Needed:
- Picture frame
- Scissors
- Glue (hot glue or glue stick)
- Photographs or prints
- Flowers and/or leaves
- A book
- Paper

Optional Supply Ideas:
- String
- Glitter
- Patterned paper
- Paint
- Colored pencils
- Pens

Instructions:

Step 1
Pick some flowers and leaves that you would like to preserve and display in your photo frames. Dry the flowers by placing them in a folded sheet of paper inside a heavy book. Wait at least one week (two is better) for the flowers to dry. After your flowers have dried, remove them from the book and get ready to use them to decorate!
**Step 2**
Next, carefully cut out the figures from the photos you would like to use in your collage. If you choose not to use personal photos, you can use pictures from magazines or newspapers.

**Step 3**
Take out the backing of the photo frame and cut a piece of paper to the same size as the backing. This will be the paper you will be using to glue your photos and dried flowers on. You can use any kind of paper you would like, or even paint your own background. After cutting the paper to size, start creating an arrangement of flowers and figures!

When you are ready, glue the pieces down. For flatter and more fragile pieces, you can use a glue stick and for more bulky flowers, you can use a hot glue gun.
Step 4
Lastly, trim any excess foliage hanging off the edges and fit your new creation back into the photo frame. Now you can display your floral memory collage in a special place in your home or give it as a gift to your loved one.