

Homes and Gardens

a. Using the interior of your home as reference , select , edit , and then pictorially reassemble using a diversity of content and subject matter .

The total opposite to a fixed viewpoint ! Look for changes in scale and shape ; look for diversity , contrast , opposites ; changes in pace and intensity ; some things should be important than others ; some elements should be more recognisable than others . Sit at your table connected to your 360 degree swivelling head , or wander about looking , recording , or collecting bits and pieces . A framed photo for instance . Try assorted techniques in the same study or similar style and language throughout . Either way try preparatory drawings/studies first . Some of the content usually moves in and out of the picture !!!!!!! ,

Or try the same process in your garden . How ? Large textured shape = lawn , vertical lines = fencing , organic matter = vegetation , circles = pots . squares = slabs , long sensual line = hosepipe , enlarged highly finished study = flower head , cut out stencil print = butterfly and so forth . Mix it up and use photography as reference if it helps .

b. Plant studies , drawing or painting .

Plant studies , collaged , from prepared painted and printed paper .

c. Develop studies and research from plants using stencils - traced around assorted leaf shapes and cut out for example - printing ,using stencils or directly from the plant , and rubbings where possible ; underside of certain leaves usually work . In some instances try overprinting , overlaying , or breaking the picture up into 2 , 3 or 4 distinct areas . Also good for collage or part collage this one and fantasy landscapes .

d. Simplified fine line pencil drawn studies of your garden concentrating on the main basic shapes only . Then try assorted non realistic colour combinations to develop your studies further . Try working inside pre-drawn squares or rectangles . Alternatively use L shapes to find dynamic , interesting, abstracted compositions from larger fine line studies - cut them out afterwards with margin. Then apply colour to selected area. Remember colour schemes. Wash or thicker paint or combinations of both.

e. Line or tonal studies of garden or parts of using assorted drawing techniques; everything from pencil, charcoal, crayons, to ink and twigs.

f. Still life into abstraction. Set up a traditional still life - jars, bottles, pots, that sort of thing and then complete a simple line study. Work from that study and subsequent studies changing, modifying, simplifying, over-laying, making more complex from one study to the next. Change surfaces, textures, shapes etc. Develop your ideas from one study to the next - a sort of sequential development gradually working into abstraction. Tracing paper is good if you have any.

g. Using L shapes develop studies from a pre-prepared collage

Kindest regards,
Chris Dart