**3D Song Project #8**

**Due May 21**

**Exploring color interaction and creating depth with color**

**Explanation & Introduction:** This project explores spatial depth using color and the illusion of optical transparency and perspective. **Project:** Create a design for a piece of music that uses spatial depth as a design element and also creates a unified color palette.In this project we continue investigating color relationships by creating depth with color. Materials: Gouache paint, collage or by computer. If you are working digitally you must post in process work. Downsize your files before posting to Open Lab.

**Post to Open Lab Project #8**

**Choose a song or piece of music to work with and create an abstract design with overlapping shapes or perspective inspired by the song or music.** You may want to work with keywords or themes from the song/music or work intuitively by feeling. Your design should have five shapes or lines overlapping with the color changing where the overlap occurs. Your design may also explore other perspective systems (single point, two point, multiple point perspective or atmospheric perspective).

For this project you’ll explore perspective and color’s potential to create depth. In general colors that are warm can give the impression of moving forward and cool colors recede to the background. Another way to create depth using color is to create the illusion of transparency with one color overlapping another color. Examples of overlapping color in designs by Man Ray:

<http://www.laboiteverte.fr/les-collages-de-man-ray/>

Step 1 - Do four color pencil thumbnails of designs inspired by the song or music in which at least five shapes are overlapping.

Step 2 - Experiment with changing the composition’s emphasis and focal points by changing the colors in your design palette.

Step 3 - Final color pencil thumbnails for design. Plan carefully your areas of overlap. Multiple shapes in your design should use the optical transparency technique to create relationships between the shapes.

Step 4 - Final Project Execution: Gouache paint on Bristol or by computer. Paint background. Background does not need to be considered as a transparent element. Measurements: Full size Bristol with our without border or by computer.

Step 5 – On Open Lab post the song title with a brief description of how your work uses design elements to bring the song or music to life visually.

Creating Transparency: To give the opaque gouache paint the illusion of transparency think of the colors as pieces of stained glass and imagine which color is on top and which below. Example: If a yellow triangle overlaps a blue square, the green area of overlap will appear more yellow than blue. The color will be yellow green, rather than green yellow. Decide which color is on top, then consider how that color will dominate the other color(s) involved, and mix paint accordingly. It’s important to be neat. Edges should be painted with precision to create the illusion of transparency.

Color Review: Designing a color palette. Here are some examples of color palettes to consider:

* Working with complementary colors: red + green; orange + blue; yellow + purple; pink + light green; any pair of colors opposite on color wheel
* Working with neutral colors: browns can be mixed by combining pairs of complementary colors: red + green; orange + blue. To darken them add more of the darker of the two colors or add black. To lighten add more of the lighter of the two colors or add white.
* Triadic: Colors from 3 equal steps on color wheel such as the 3 primary colors red, blue, yellow or the 3 secondary colors orange, purple, green
* Monochromatic palette: Many different values of one color

Painting notes (exercises to do in class to understand optical transparency and color mixing):

If you are using gouache paint to create transparency effects, below are some helpful practice exercises. Make four painted thumbnail studies demonstrating your understanding of optical transparency. The correct choice of an in-between color must be chosen from the two parent colors. Each thumbnail should have two shapes overlapping:

#1 Two value levels of the same hue overlapping (add white to create the second hue)

#2 Two different hues overlapping (decide which will be on top and mix accordingly)

#3 Two analogous hues overlapping (next to each other on color wheel)

#4 Two complements that overlap (mix colors opposite each other on color wheel to form a chromatic neutral)

Grading Rubric:

Originality & concept 20%

Use of color – understanding of color mixing to create the illusion of overlapping shapes 30%

Depth/Perspective 30%

Design Presentation 20%