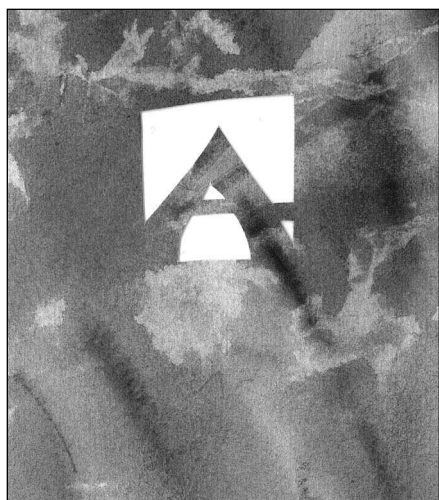




paper letters

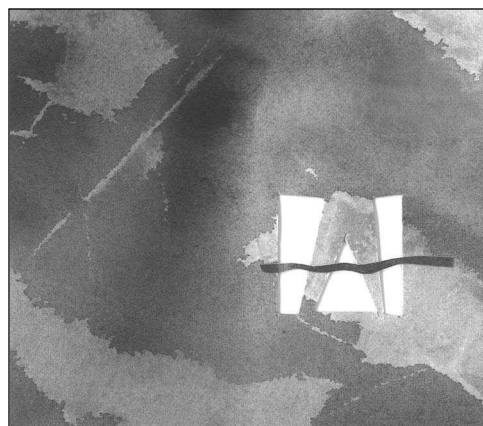
by Shirley Campbell

Lorraine Douglas began the workshop entitled Cut Paper Letters by showing examples, which can be found all over the world. This technique was used by Matisse and Hans Christian Anderson in their artwork. It can be seen in Polish folk art, and it is a rich and ancient art tradition in both Mexico and China. We started with a review of Neuland, which was to be the basis of our projects. Most participants had some experience with this alphabet and as Neuland means "new land", Lorraine encouraged us to explore and have fun with this style of lettering.

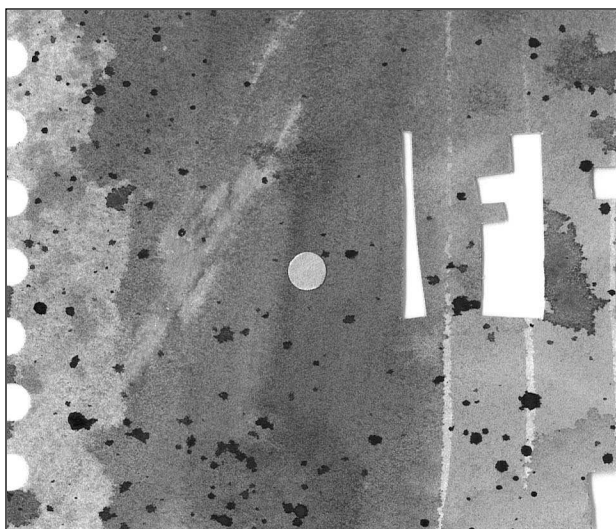


Kerri Forster

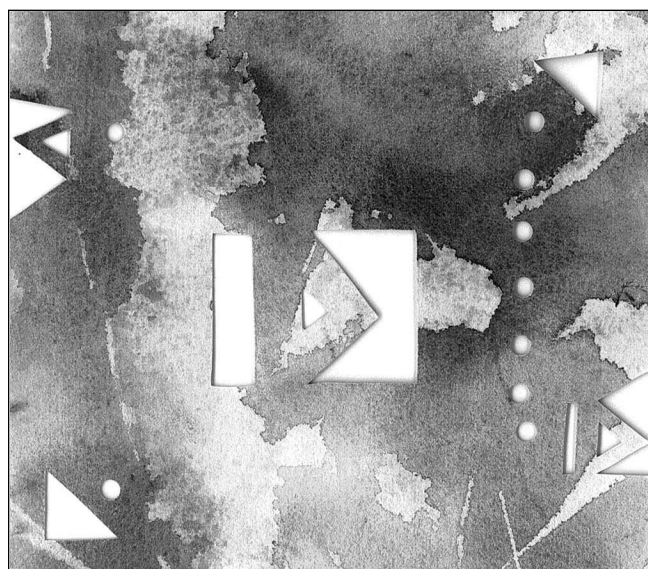
Our large sheets of Arches Text Wove were torn into quarters and then blotting paper was torn into strips. Lorraine explained that colours found side-by-side on the colour wheel look best together and recommended using very bright colours. Three analogous watercolours were squeezed onto a palette and we went to work. A page was wet with clear water and watercolours were dripped, swirled and brushed across the page. Strips and pieces of blotting paper were used to wick up paint, which created interesting lines and shapes. It was easier working on half of the page at a time. We painted and decorated both sides of four of our sheets and one side of two more sheets, the perfect way to brighten up a snowy, drab day in March.



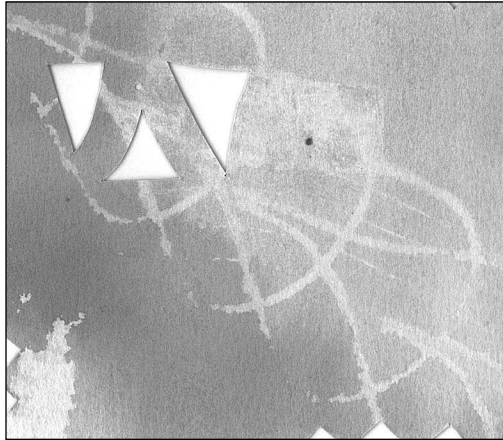
Kathy Guthrie



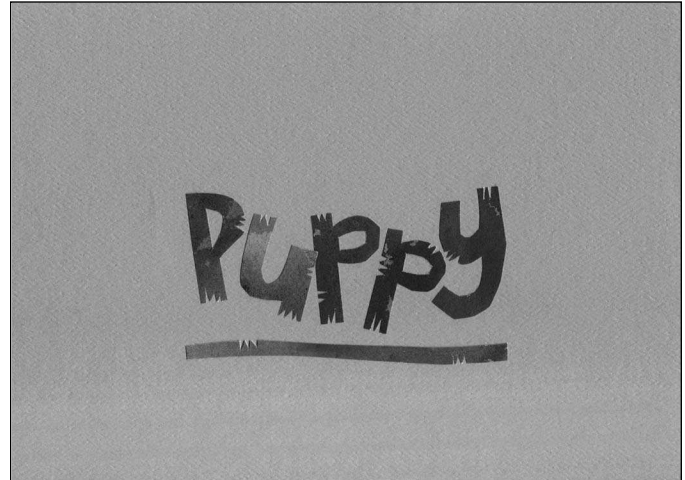
Nancy Dormer



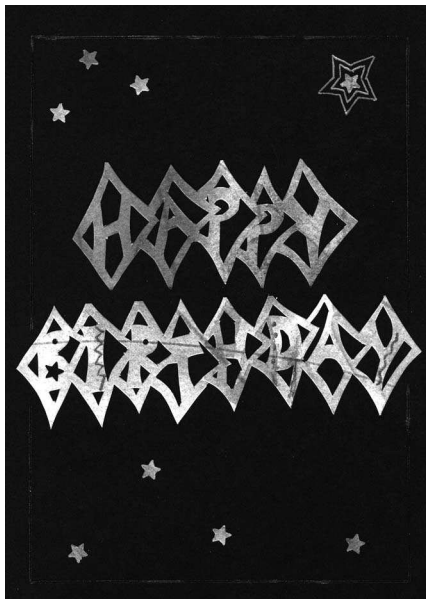
Shirley Campbell



Donna Clement

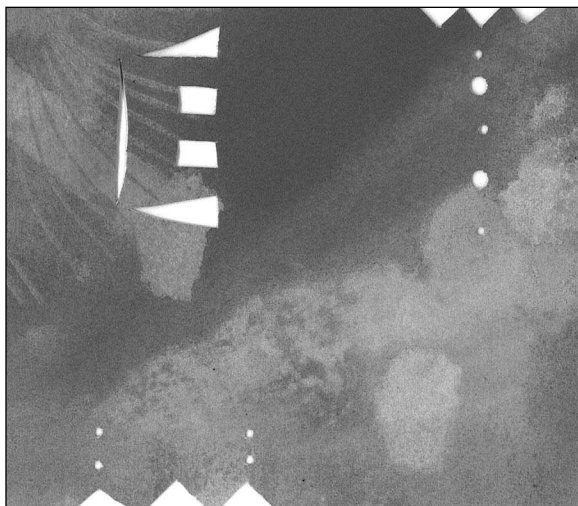


Kathy Guthrie



Yogi Grunwald

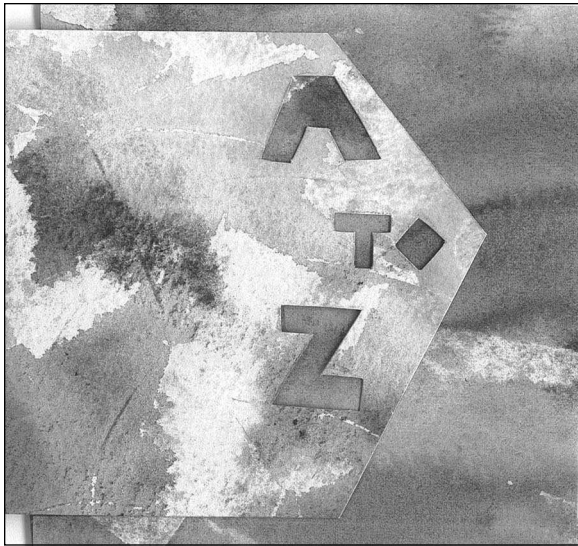
Once our painted sheets were dry, we cut them into 30 small pages, which would become our alphabet bundle. We were instructed to design one letter for each page and to use our imagination to decorate each page. Lorraine gave many examples and suggestions about where we might like to place the letter on the page and how we might like to decorate the page using hole punches and cuts. A template helped us experiment with options and decide where the best placement would be for the letter. At first, cutting away the negative shapes freehand using an X-acto knife proved to be a challenge but soon wonderful letters, some dancing, some in line, began to appear. Cuts along the edges of the pages could reflect the letter shapes. The rich and vibrant coloured pages became home to a variety of letters, all based on the Neuland alphabet!



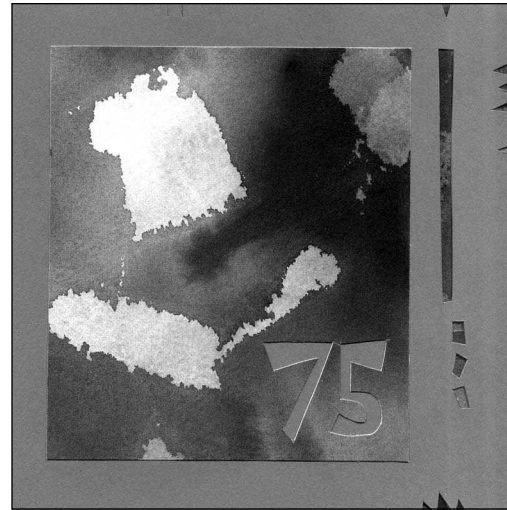
Donna Clement



Jennifer Peddlesden

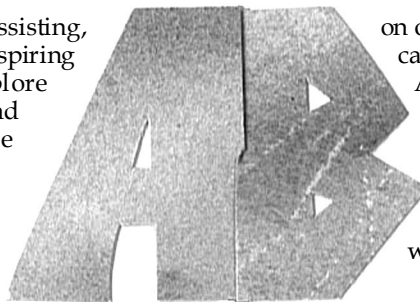


Shirley Campbell



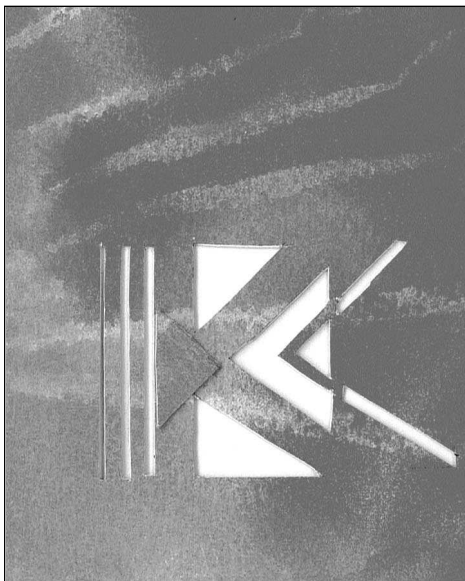
Kathy Guthrie

Lorraine moved around the room assisting, advising, suggesting and generally inspiring and encouraging her students to explore and experiment with colour, cuts, and letter styles. A “wrap” strip was made to enclose our loose pages. A cover wrap for the bundle of pages was cut from the painted Arches paper using a template. The pages we had painted

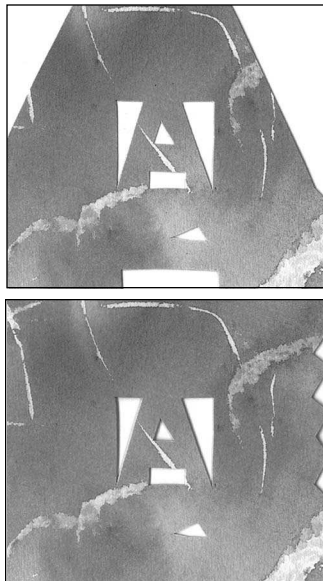


Kerri Forster

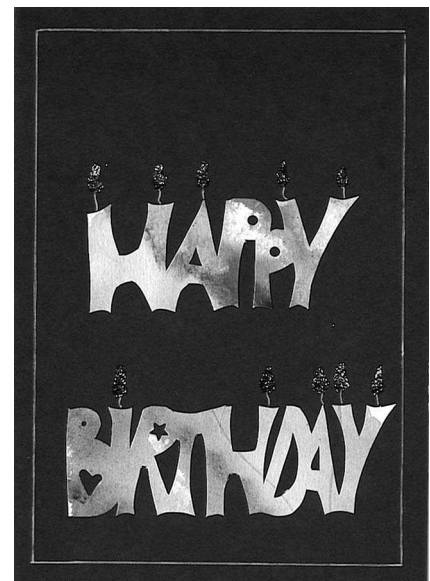
on one side only were used to create greeting cards and alphabet letter compositions. Again, limited only by imagination, a great variety of colourful projects were displayed. During the two days, Lorraine generously shared a wealth of ideas and useful hints along with many samples of her own work. This was a most relaxing and enjoyable class.



Ralda de Beer



Chris McDermid



Yogi Grunwald