

VSII: Collect/ Curate



collection

noun

UK

/kə'lek.ʃən/ **US**

/kə'lek.ʃən/

collection *noun* (THINGS TOGETHER)

a group of objects of one type that have been collected by one person or in one place:

a private art collection

a valuable stamp collection

...but what might this sentiment mean to you? How might you interpret this within your negotiated Collection project briefs? From kids books to Museum curators, how do we start these collections?



TASK:

Words are emotive, often conjuring images, ideas and meaning when taken in and out of context.

Responding to the auditory suggestions within Claire Wilcox's text, taken from Patchwork A Life Amongst Clothes (pgs 61 – 64) you are asked to consider the careful curation of your precious collections.

How do they sit together? How are they arranged? Composed? And how can we observe and document these seedling ideas using words and image?

- Using the space you have available (your desks, kitchen counters or the carpets and flooring beneath your toes, you are asked to carefully arrange your collections paying attention to the spaces in, around and between your objects... How can you suggest interesting relationships and meaning between these prized possessions? How do they relate to each other?
- Capture the image using your cameras – the whole composition as beautiful flat lay and the details that you take pleasure in observing... document your personal collections with the careful eye of the curator.
- Consider how you might document your observations through text – what words spring to mind that help you articulate these objects and their meaning to you? You might pay attention to:

Category – what is it?

Materiality – what is it made from?

Origins – is it a family heirloom or flotsam and jetsam found on the street?

Value – does it carry monetary value or sentiment (just like the sugar egg)?

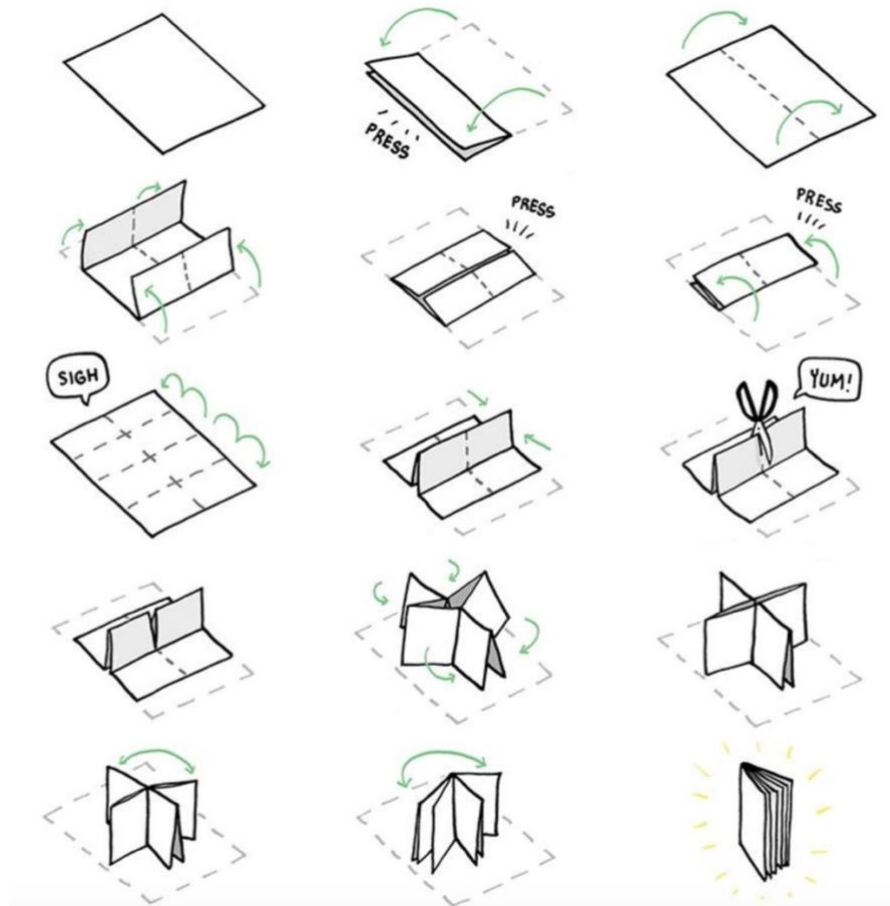
Tactility – how does it feel? How does it make *you* feel?

- Document these observations, document your words on your own labels and our/ tagging systems... try not to be too precious – do not worry about spelling mistakes or smudges.
- Capture these words in and amongst your flat lay's, as if working in the depths of the museum archives.
- Rearrange, reconfigure and repeat.

EXTEND:

During your SDL time you are all encouraged to observe and translate your findings from our online introduction. You are asked to do this on at least ONE A3 page, using both sides, to create a small pocket notebook of thoughtful observational drawings.

- You are asked to fold an A3 sheet of THE BEST quality paper that you have available to you into a small sketchbook, like this...



- When configured you should have a side of 4 x 2 A6 'pages' on which to document your curated collections... almost like a curators cabinet!
- Use each boxing to carefully observe and draw your curated collections as whole objects or details using a range of black and white media. Consider some quick warm up sketches VS. more sustained and observed drawings within the space available to you. Draw your collections with as much love and care as you have just spent curating them. Use only black and white media on the page of 8 boxes.
- On the reverse, use the 'full page' to carefully some of the best bit and greatest hits of your curated collection, celebrated in full technicolour. Ensure that this page of your pocket book is well observed, well loved – use your most favoured of drawing styles and tools – to ensure that your time is spent well.

FURTHER IDEAS & INSPIRATIONS...

This is an interesting and timely article on The art hoarder: clutter and compulsive collecting
<https://artuk.org/discover/stories/the-art-hoarder-clutter-and-compulsive-collecting#>

For anyone feeling a little overwhelmed, here are some online collections to start your curatorial adventure down the rabbit holes of your projects... enjoy x

Graphics, Fonts and Patterns

http://oa.letterformarchive.org/item?workID=lfa_type_0401&targPic=LFA_Type_0401_032.jpg&fbclid=IwAR3jLeRUCXpletZ_K1Zc85WMGrqKnAraPcAZbEwQ_E_HRhCcEKheA2XZiw

https://www.instagram.com/explore/tags/%E9%81%93%E8%B7%AF%E6%A8%99%E7%A4%BA/?fbclid=IwAR0TnnRmv4CzqDTsl6N5v7BXjsWufsECfF-V04rz-q8zn_fOYWuQoacKN2M

<https://trademarksandsymbols.tumblr.com/?fbclid=IwAR2XSVBGR9vht0Geacxf1B2IhxdnF9dmpD6je3OBzqb3v4jqEEjmanwDweQ>

<https://www.facebook.com/designofprl>

Papers and ephemera

https://blog.cmog.org/2011/12/16/glass-from-christmas-past/?utm_source=rss&utm_medium=rss&utm_campaign=glass-from-christmas-past

<https://www.rarebook.com/pages/books/89757/candy-japan/collection-of-560-candy-wrappers-and-labels-and-55-boxes>

Architecture and landscape

<http://arquitecturalibre.mx/fotos/m%C3%A9xico/>

<https://www.instagram.com/centerpivotsprinkler/>

Oddities and objects

<https://www.instagram.com/legolostatsea/?hl=en>

<https://oceantrash.rethinktw.org/>

https://pikabu.ru/story/katalog_igrushek_zavoda_ogonek_5747743

<http://www.dentaku-museum.com/index.html>