

Floral Journey- Germany and Belgium
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Welcome to the world of Floral Art! Here is a summary of my talk.

When I look for inspiration, I look at objects both natural and architecturally interesting. How does one make a structure to hold water for flowers? (Slides of honey comb looking canopies and roofs...)

What elements in other crafts could I use in making a structure? Try the art of weaving, how about using glass in different ways?

I think of floral art as a means of presenting flowers in different ways which involve creating structures or embellishing a vase with different elements. Some designs involve detailed work and stable mechanics. Floral art awakens curiosity...

Gregor Lersch introduces the idea of using weaving of wire to create bouquet frames which hold flowers. One could also weave in dried elements. How about creating a structure to balance a bouquet so that it stands in water rather than be confined to a vase?

-braiding grasses, rolling and binding leaves, tying bundles of pine needles or little twigs... all elements one could use in a design

-The idea of using natural elements found in your garden could be incorporated in your design. Depending on the time of year... techniques could be used to show case elements you find. For example, stringing fall leaves, pinning silk leaves (preserved salal, dusty miller), tying twigs to form a structure around a vase both glass and terracotta...

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-idea of using a Styrofoam sphere to pin leaves, bark.

-using plaster to cover a Styrofoam, painting it and making it into a unique vessel and using wire loops at the edge of that to make a frog to hold flowers in place in the water.

-Dipping water balloons in wax to make vessels. After letting the wax dry overnight, add some floral foam for the flowers and it will keep the ball from moving.

-taping wire in between 2 aspidistra leaves to make them pliable for visual interest.

-pinning dried leaves, such as the bird of paradise piece, onto a dry board to make a wall design- with tubes added in between to hold blooms (anthurium design).

Live Demo from Lisa

Wreath design

-Crimp ring or wreath wire

-paper wrap binding wire

-twigs and sticks from the garden... look for ones with stronger lines for - crisscrossing the circle and also ones that are more bendable for encircling the ring. Lichen ones give a nice color and added natural look.

-add other dried elements you find (birch bark)

-wooden strips for movement in the design

-bleached Lagurus (bunny tails)

-glass or plastic tubes

In this design I used, pink callas, plumosa fern, ginestra. My goal was to keep the piece light and airy. The less is more concept... interest is found in the wreath with flowers as the added elements to “soften” the design of the twigs...

Enjoy the many possibilities of creating designs with elements found right in your garden. The wreath I made could be reused to match the season or however you feel! Put it away for a season and use it again. Change the twigs or add more tubes for more flowers... there are endless possibilities.

Thanks again for inviting me to your meeting and I hope to see all of you in person one day! Whether it be at your monthly meeting or with me in NYC or CT, do let me know if you and a group would like to visit for a class!

Stay well and happy designing!

Warmly,
Lisa