

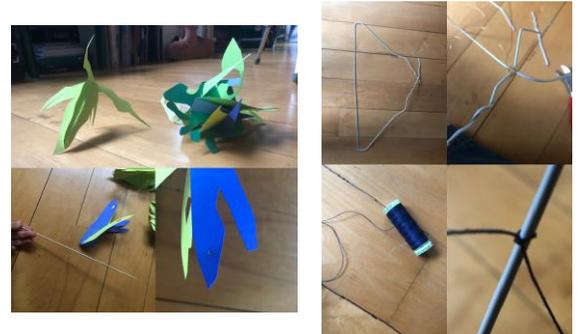
Art at Home: *Calder-Inspired Mobiles*

~Nikki Schiro, Hospital Artist-In-Residence, Mount Sinai West

Materials needed:

- selection of colored or decorative papers
- hot glue or any clear-drying glue--Elmers, craft, etc.
- scissor
- wire cutter
- clothes hanger
- colored thread, thin wire or yarn

1. Cut your selection of paper into quarters by folding in half, and then half again
2. Select two pieces of different colored paper
3. Holding the two pieces together, begin cutting an interesting shape (thereby creating two identical shapes in different colors). You can create shapes inspired by nature, geometry, Matisse, or...?
4. Take one of the two newly cut forms and cut it up the middle—not completely, but as close to the edge as possible, being careful to not cut all the way across.
5. Take the uncut form and slide it into the slit of the cut double. You may choose to slide in the uncut form upside-down or in the mirrored direction of the cut double.
6. Using hot glue, fuse the two forms together. You can use scraps to made additional shapes and glue them on to this base form.
7. Make 5 or 7 forms in various sizes.
8. Find something in the house to punch a hole, and then make one hole in each form. You can use a safety pin, a wooden skewer, or anything with a sharp, round end.



9. Now, get you wire hanger. Unwind the twisted part near the hook. Cut the hanger into 2 or 4 pieces using the wire cutter—If you have 5 paper forms, cut the hanger into two pieces--1 piece longer than the other. If you made 7 forms, you will want to cut an additional 2 smaller pieces. No measuring required.

10. Bend the longest wire piece into a soft downward V shape at it's approximate center. Cross the medium-sized piece over it at it's center. Using thread or wire, start wrapping and connecting the two pieces at the center. I used a gods-eye type of wrapping—over and around, over and around, etc. Next, cut a long piece of thread, tie it to the hanger and begin to wrap it with the thread. If you have 7 forms, when you get to the ends of the longest axis, you will “T” a smaller piece, and wrap the pieces together as you did for the center. Continue wrapping until your entire structure is covered. (For people with neuropathy or who are averse to wrapping, you may choose to paint the wire instead...or even paint it with glue and dip it in glitter.)

11. Cut a piece of thread, knot one end, thread it through your form and tie it to the center of your mobile. Repeat for each form and tie to each end.

12. Install your mobile, best where it can catch a breeze!

