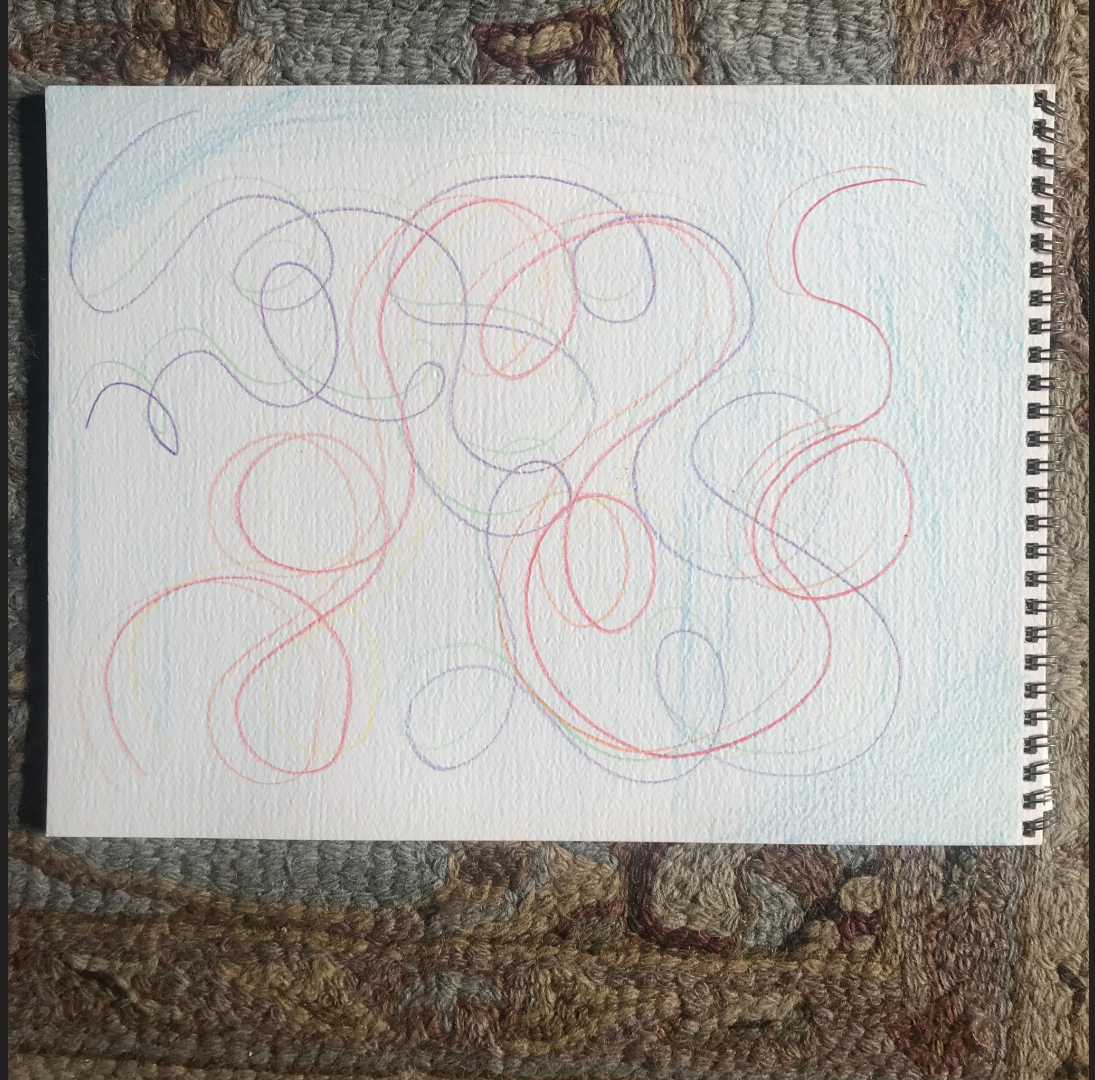
Seminar: Mark Making

Holly Squashic

Marks with water color

I used watercolors and a swirl design I often find myself doing when my mind wanders. I don’t do them in any particular pattern, purposefully anyway. In some areas, I used two paint brushes with different colors simultaneously. I typically keep my sketches or pattern pieces in black and white, using only a black pen or regular pencil, but I wanted to work with color this time.



Marks with colored pencils

I again utilized my swirl patterns, this time using colored pencils. I have done this with crayons before, and wanted to try it with thinner lines, hence the use of pencils. I hold 2 or 3 pencils at a time, drawing the swirls with them together. Again, there is no real rhyme or reason as to what I put where, I just move my hands. I used a similar but duller color pallet.

Photo collage

I was feeling very uninspired by loose materials and in a headspace of longing for another environment. England is where I want to go, so I picked photos of elements of my dream space there. The cobblestones and Pemberly, the lovely cottage and swan ridden lake, flowers adorning everything. I folded the swan in a fan fold, as I think swans and old lace folding fans are both elegant. The house is folded, and refolded, as a crumpled dream, that I sometimes feel could never be a reality. I was inspired by the artist Matt Phillips, who’s paintings remind of contoured papers.