Portraits ‘n’ Nature

Bringing the outside in to create faces in our spaces.
por·trait
/'pôrtrət, 'pôrˌtrāt/

a painting, drawing, photograph, or engraving of a person, especially one depicting only the face or head and shoulders.
Inspiration

In the 1950s and 60s, artist Lil Picard incorporated cosmetics and beauty products into her female figures. She used hair pins, brushes, lipstick, jewelry, and anything else she had in her vanity.

Today, you’re going to take that technique and apply it to nature and portraits. You can use a portrait of yourself, a friend, and/or family member as inspiration OR you can create one of your own.

Lil Picard (American, born in Germany, 1899–1994)
**Lady Woolworth, 1963**
Assemblage on cardboard, 24 x 18 in.
Lil Picard Collection, 2012.462
Supplies

• Items in nature
• Paper or fabric for a backdrop
• Camera (optional)
• Glue or Tape (optional)
Step 1. Venture outside in your yard and collect any nature items on the ground that catch your eye. Don’t think too much about it—just collect... rocks, pinecones, leaves, twigs, etc.

Step 2. Once you have 10-15 items, go inside or to a non-windy space to put the portraits together.
Step 3. Get a piece of paper (white computer paper works well) or a piece of fabric, something you can use as a backdrop. Set the paper or fabric on a table or the ground and start creating!
Step 4. As you assemble your portraits, think about what you’ll need to make your face—eyes, ears, nose, mouth, hair... mustache, earrings, hat?!

You may find you have to go back outside to find the perfect item. That’s just part of the fun!
Step 5. When you’re happy with your portrait, take a picture to capture the image and, if you so choose, tape or glue it down to make it permanent.

Name your piece and share it with us!

#StanleyPortraitsNNature