



# ART JOURNAL ACCENTS

20 creative touches to Embellish and Energize Your Art Journal backgrounds

## 1. Fabric Veil

Tip-in a sheer fabric scrap between two pages for a peek-a-boo veil.

## 2. Folded Reveal

Glue a strip of paper to the page edge as a tip-in—fold it to make a 3-page hidden fold.

## 3. Cluster Pocket

Build a small cluster of scraps, then glue it to form a pocket for tiny ephemera.

## 4. Ragged Borders

Tear & layer found papers or fabrics. Let bits hang off the edges for raw borders.

## 5. Stenciled Contrast

Drag bright paint through a stencil over your background for pops of pattern.

## 6. Tattered Fringe

Glue or stitch on gauze or fabric scraps so threads and bits hang freely from the page edge.

## 7. Chalkboard Scribble

Paint a section (or whole page) matte black, let dry, then journal or doodle on top with a white gel pen.

## 8. Focal Fusion

Collage in a magazine face, then blend its edges into your painted page with finger-smudged or knife-dragged paint. Add scribbles and splatters.

## 9. Stitched Bits

Hand-stitch small fabric scraps, ribbon pieces, threads clusters and add them as embellishments on the edge.

## 10. Marked Memories

Use found handwritten notes, vintage receipts, or old letters as collage pieces. Layer them lightly with transparent paint or translucent collage papers so the writing peeks through.

## 11. Found Stamps

Use bottle caps, cardboard edges or scrunched paper as impromptu paint stamps.

## 12. Corrugated Bits

Dip bottle caps, cardboard edges or scrunched-up paper into paint and use as improvised stamps for unexpected marks.

## 13. Assemblage Center

Build a small mound of paper/fabric bits in the middle, then paint around it to emphasize.

## 14. Photo Transfer

Use gel medium to lift a photocopy into your spread—frame it with marks & collage.

## 15. Shadow Box

Glue on a slightly deeper paper “frame,” then fill the inset with layered ephemera and paint.

## 16. Interactive Flap

Create a large folded flap over your background; under it, tuck hidden journaling or images.

## 17. Mixed-Media Portrait

Collage a magazine face or figure onto your page. Abstract it by painting over. Redraw key features with a fine brush.

## 18. Threaded Collage

Hand-stitch fabric or paper scraps. Let threads and torn edges peek, dangle, or overlap.

## 19. Ephemera Garden

Scatter small vintage bits (stamps, tickets, labels) in a loose cluster; unify with an wash & doodled vines.

## 20. Word Cluster

Create a tiny collage cluster of words (cut from magazines, labels or ephemera). Use it as a mini focal point