Crafting Together: Inktober Kickoff with Lisa Congdon with Lisa Congdon

Chapter 1 - Inktober Kickoff with Lisa Congdon

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- Hello everyone. Welcome. We have many hundreds of people signed up for this live event. We're gonna give it a couple of minutes for people to come out of the weight room and onto the live class. Feel free to use the chat to say where you're from. The chat is always so fun, a lot of parts. Turn it on right now so I can see it. All right from DC, Ontario, Portugal, Texas, North Carolina, Brooklyn, Scotland. I love it. Keep it coming. Welcome everyone. I'm Courtney Cerney. I'm the editor in chief here at Creative Bug. I'm coming from Berkeley, California and we're joined with our, one of our earliest instructors, A long time. Favorite Lisa Conden from Portland at the moment. - Yes. How are you Lisa? I'm doing really great. It's so fun to be here. It's kind of like a gray day outside, so it's a perfect day to be like starting an October challenge. I love, I'm very excited. - Yeah, yeah. Happy October 1st everyone. We have per like timed this perfectly to fall on a Wednesday so we can do a live with a kickoff for Ink Tober or Draw Tober or Paint Tober, whatever challenge you set yourself for being creative in the month of October. And we invited Lisa to come back because a few years ago she filmed an Ink Tober challenge with us on Creative Bug. We're making it free this month so you can revisit all of that amazing content. Lisa does what she does best. She draws and shares her insights and wisdom around her very stylized drawing. I mean, your career has had so many evolutions. I feel like Lisa, every time I talk to you, you've added something new. Yeah. What are the things that are keeping you interested right now? - Well, I, it's interesting, I, I just had a solo show in Portland this summer and what I did was I made like 40 plus paintings that were based on some collages that I made last year. So I like went really kind of like, I did something that I'd never done before, which is I made a bunch of collages in a sketchbook when I was recovering from my knee replacement surgeries at the end of last year. And then my, one of my employees who's like really creative, she was like, these would make great paintings or great posters, you know, the collages that I had made. And so she got me thinking about making them like the, the sketchbook was like this big, so, you know, some of the paintings were huge. And so yeah, that ended up being really fun and so I had a lot of, I had a great time doing that. And then recently I was invited to be in a show in, in South Korea and I wanted to do something totally new and different. So I haven't shared them yet, but I'm back into line drawing. And then I basically took the line drawings and made those into paintings. So I'm into like making things that are sort of more kind of small and then blowing them up really big. And that's kind of what I've been doing a lot of lately. So - I love hearing too how like one practice will inform another like, okay, collage then translate in a large scale to painting line work, which is like, I feel like where we, and probably most of the world started, - I'm kind of coming back to it. I like, I really went to, and I still fully embrace and practice like my more graphic illustration style, which is just like big blocks of color. But lately, like I don't have it with me, but we just released a new mug that's all line drawing and I've just been getting back into it and, and kind of like thinking about how I can expand it and do other larger scale more interesting things with it. So Cool. I love that. Well thank you. Yeah, my t-shirt is also my, so this is sort of like more, it's all one color but it's more representative of the kind of work that I make now. I mean these aren't lines but they're sort of - Super graphic. - Yeah. Yeah. And actually the new line work I'm doing is also super graphic, so it feels like kind of a new extension for me. So I'm excited to share that. Yeah, - I love it. Well thank you for joining us for a revisit Toto. And I wanted to ask you too, because you know, like

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talking about the evolution of your work and the style, do you still do a lot of drawing by hand? Is it a balance between that and digital? Like what do you find? Well, - Digital drawing I do with my hands. So it's still by hand just not doing it on paper. So today we're gonna be drawing in with ink on paper, which I still love to do, but I do draw on my iPad a lot. I would say 70% of the art I make is on my iPad. And actually even stuff that ends up in more analog form, like on a canvas or on paper, oftentimes I'm, I like sketch out ideas on my iPad and that's mostly because it's a really efficient way to work. Like you don't have to use paper, you don't have to have the supplies with you. If you make a mistake you can just go back a few steps and start over. Where with painting it's like with actual, you know, ink or you know, it's a little, the process is a lot is is a lot messier, which is fine. I enjoy it but it's not as efficient and I'm busy so I need to be efficient. I - Can make room for both. That's awesome. Yeah, totally. Do you yourself, I promise we'll dive in to make together, but I just have a few questions. I do yourself participate in any daily challenges anymore? It sounds like you're already showing up daily to do work out of the necessity of doing - It. Yeah, I don't, I don't really have, I stopped doing daily challenges myself probably like, I don't know, six or seven years ago, like I would say 2018 and maybe that's even longer than six or seven years ago. What I don't even know but, and that's partly because my career took off and I just don't have time now. When I got, I mentioned earlier that at the end of 2024 I had both my knees replaced seven weeks apart. And so I actually at this table where I'm sitting, I'm in my house right now, not my studio. And I sat at this very table in my basement and I made a collage every, or at least one collage every day in this sketchbook that I referred to earlier. And that was like the first daily practice that I had done in a really long time. And it was amazing and I loved it and I was like, I'm gonna keep doing this every single day. And then of course I went back to work and to real life, I'd even like in my studio set up a collage table. - I love that. - And it lasted about three weeks and then I just got really busy again and, and then I was like, you know what, maybe it's okay that I'm moving on to something else or moving on to my regular life. I can come back to this whenever I want. But when you have the time and the bandwidth, it's just like daily practices are why I am an artist today. Like I just, that's sort of how I found my voice and how I got to draw and paint better and develop my own style. And anytime I have time to do them, like in a few years maybe I'll retire from, you know, having a retail business and I'll have more time and I can't wait to like get back into making things every day, like challenging myself to do that. I mean I do make things every day, but it's - Yeah, - Different for clients and stuff. So I - Love hearing that and remembering 'cause your daily drawing challenge was our first daily practice. So for anybody who hasn't seen that, just like what you said, using that as a tool to find your voice, familiarize yourself with your materials, choose your line quality, like that daily practice really I think can help people. And I have seen people write, you know, on the site that like, oh thank you Lisa. This, this is the class that got me started on my own path to being an artist. - Yeah. People email me all the time and tell me that or like, like I took your first daily drawing challenge on creative bug and now I'm a professional artist. Like, you know, it doesn't happen overnight. That was like over 10 years ago. But yeah, really, really cool. Yeah, I love that. Somebody's asking what program I use on the iPad. I use procreate, but Adobe also makes a drawing program that's pretty great. So yeah. - Okay, well let's dive in. I'll try to keep an eye on the chat as well. Okay. People are saying they wanna see that shirt you're wearing in the shop. - Oh, so let me tell you, this is the, there's a really funny story behind this shirt. So I had a show in Philadelphia in two years, it was 2023. And I had these, I had gone to Japan and it was a show that was like inspired by my trip to Japan and I made these in, in, in, in Japan there's these like tapestries and like linen panels that they sell that are screen printed and they're just simply gorgeous. And so I,

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I drew the, I made this, you know, design that was screen printed on these panels that was going into this show. And the guy who was doing my screen printing for me had this t-shirt like sitting in his screen printing studio and he, this was the print that went on the tapestry, but he just made me this one shirt. - Wow. - And like this, this is the only shirt that exists. I'm not saying I couldn't figure out how to make more, but like yeah, it's only on the front. And I know all the time people are like, where can I get that? And I'm like, well you'd have to come and break into my house and steal it from my closet. - That's a very social shirt. I love that. - Yeah. - You cannot see Lisa, I think you need to change your view at the beginning. Sorry, at the top where it says maybe speaker view or multi-speaker view. I will unpin my video just as we get started. But while we're chatting, we're both on here. I love that story about your shirt and also just for a brief thing about what you said to call this out about your collaging while you were healing from your surgeries and hearing how like restorative and healing that was. And that's something we're gonna talk about in January when we have Lisa come back for another live event we'll talk about a little bit later. That is gonna be on her collage practice. So stay tuned. Yeah, I'll - And myself all together. - Yeah. Yes. And let, what do people need to just have kind of at hand? - Okay. Okay. So if you, hopefully you saw the materials list, but like ink of any color. So I, I'm gonna use this, I don't know if if this got said already or not, but we're gonna, we're gonna draw bats today. We wanted to make something spooky. So I any color ink probably better if you have something that's not black because we're gonna do the like line work on top of the ink drawing in black in like a pen. So if you have any width of micron pen, it doesn't really matter. Or any black like, like pen that's not gonna bleed. Something that's permanent ink. If you do want to use black ink and you have like white jelly roll pens that can sometimes work if you wanna use white on a darker color. And then I have this little like dish here. What is this called, Courtney? - Just a color. It's like a, it could be a water key. - Yeah, yeah, yeah. I, it's this one's plastic. They, they also make ceramic ones and it's just a great place to mix ink. And then I also have some brushes I like when I'm painting with ink to use soft brushes. So like watercolor brushes are, are really nice, but any brush you have is fine. I've got a couple that are thicker. - It's ink over. I was just gonna say we're sending in because it's October. But if you have markers, I mean that's ink also you can join and participate with whatever. - Yeah, totally. And actually if you, if you like the look of painting with ink, but you don't have ink but you have watercolor, you can just pretend it's ink and use your watercolor today that that is also completely fair. - And I am making a pink bat so I'm using f and w acrylic ink. So mine's gonna be non-realistic. We we can share our bats at the end. - Yeah, it's really funny because I, when Courtney and I decided to do bats, I was like, knew I was gonna be working from home today, so I had to bring stuff with me and I, I went into my drawer that has my ink and I like, I should have just brought the whole bin home but I was like, oh I need black or brown 'cause I'm making a bat. Like I was obviously being very literal and Courtney was like, wait, wait a second. Like mine's gonna be pink and you can make any color bat you want. And I was like, you are so right. I can't believe I was being so literal. So, so I, I actually have some that's burnt number because I just was like, bats are sort of brown. So the first thing I'm gonna do is this ink is, is like acrylic ink and I'm gonna put a little bit in one of these little - Wells. - Well thank you. I was gonna call it dishes, but I wanna make sure that this ink is a little watered down because when we, and you'll, you'll hear about this if you end up taking my ink tobra class and you haven't taken it yet or if you wanna take it again, one of the things that you'll notice is that in almost every drawing, if not all of them, we lay down the base first in ink and then we take a pen of some kind and draw details on top. And in order for those details to show up, you wanna make sure that the ink isn't too opaque. And ink is really amazing. It's kind of like watercolor like it, the more you water it down, the more

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transparent it becomes. So I've got some at full transparency and sometimes what I like to do is just get like a scratch piece of paper and instead of, you know, taking my nice piece of watercolor paper here, I'm like laying down, you know, to see how dark this is. And I know it's kind of you, it's kind of far away so you can't see, but it's pretty dark. And so I'm going to, I've got a little bit of water in like this. Well, and I'm just gonna mix a little bit of the, the brown ink in there and then you can see how much more transparent this little blob is. And once I get the color exactly where I want it in terms of like how watered down it is, then I'm ready to go to my nice paper. So pro tip, keep a piece of scratch paper by you and test it out. You can also put, oh that's, that's good. Thank you for doing that. You can also put a coat of just plain water on top of your watercolor paper. If your paper's thick enough, that can sometimes create interesting texture. I'm not gonna do that today, but you can do that also, it's like a watercolor technique that that also works. So the first thing I'm gonna do for my bat and I've got, I don't know if you can see here 'cause my table's white, but I've got like a rectangular piece of paper. I think in the class we kind of draw everything this direction, but because bats have like a big wingspan, I'm gonna go horizontal here. So no first Go ahead Courtney. - No sketching first. - Oh just dive. No, I know you wanna, I do. Did did we actually draw things in pencil in that other class? - I don't think so. I don't think so either. Very confident in your life. - I 100% give people permission if you wanna draw or if you wanna watch me then draw it, then paint it in if you're not confident. But I actually really like painting without penciling it first. If you do make sure you use the pencil very lightly because I actually like things to be wonky and not so perfect. So for this bat, and you can do, you know, you can do it your own way too. I'm gonna just make the body, which our bath's gonna be kind of cute. So we're gonna make just a like paint in ink in the just a, you know, I might go in and add some, a little bit of dark here, which you can see. I think that's good. Got like, maybe give him like a little bit of a tummy here. Okay, so that's the, the body and that, I don't know if you can see this is like the contrast between my paper and my table is not the best. So there - I think it's showing up. Okay. - Okay, good. A little - Over for the belly with a little bit of shadow - And then I'm going to make some ears. So bad ear bats are sort of known for their pointy ears. So I'm gonna do that and then we'll have his little legs or her kind of like, it's got little feet. I'm sure bat feet are probably pretty weird looking. This summer I took my niece to the zoo and we went and saw the bats and it was actually one of the coolest things I saw that day. Now already this ink is like if you have good paper that has teeth and some absorption, your your, what you painted so far should already like be drying a little bit. We're gonna have to take a minute before we add the detail on top because it needs to dry first. Okay, now we're gonna do the wings. This part's tricky and like I made, I did a practice this yesterday and one of my wings is like bigger than the other one. I'll show you the bat I painted yesterday. I when we're done and I just think it's the best because like I, the more wonky and weird something is the better. - Yeah, okay. I mean so many, even humans, one foot's bigger than the other one breast than the other. - But this one I'm gonna make because bats like the, they're sort of like their wings have these sort of outlines to them and then the inner part of their wings are more transparent. So I'm gonna kind of make the outline first. - So almost like little arms that then the wings are gonna come off. Yep. - And I'm using instead of the watered down ink, I'm gonna use the ink just straight out of the jar for this part. And then, and you know, I, I don't even know if this is what a real path wing looks like, but, and then I'm gonna, but that doesn't matter because whatever, it's art, so it can be whatever you want it to be. So, so there's my first wing. I am gonna fill this in with some lighter, some more transparent ink in a second. But before we do that I'm gonna do the other side. And so I'm right-handed. So this is always the tricky part. - So that bottom, the bottom part of the wing is sort of parallel to the arches and the - Yep - And the

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top. Okay. Yeah. Is this fun? I'm following along. Just how, how you're constructing your wings - And you can see they're not, they're not, I'm not a perfectionist. So these wings are not, I mean they're, they're similar enough. - Yeah, they'll, okay - We back. So now that we're done with that and we can darken these 'cause there's this sort of like the detail that we want, you know, when you look at a bat you will often see the, these sort of like appendages and then the wing part, the actual like skin that makes up infer that makes up the win wing is also sometimes even transparent like you can see through it. So we're gonna go back to this more diluted brown and fill that in a little bit. I might also go into the edges of just to, to create some contrast between the body and the wing. I like added some shading on this side too, - So this is why these like pre-mixed dilutions are helpful. So you can just kind of like grab one, - Go back to what you had before. Yeah. And I've got one that's like full potency and one that's watered down and you could, you could actually have them at a bunch of different opacities. - Yeah, I love that. I work with ink so differently than this. So this is like a really fun experiment. - Oh, say more. - I just, I use a lot of f and W ink for blotted line monoprint, which I actually have two ink tober challengers on using like a dip pen and that ink if anybody's interested in just more ways to play with ink. And I've also painted with it in the way that Missy Dunaway does on our site just almost as a substitute for watercolor, but that's much more opaque and painterly. So having these like washes is so valuable. It's just not a way that I normally work. I, I think more about like monochrome work or comic book work and like it's super helpful to just have these little wells. Yeah. And I'm really appreciating it. - And you can see where you could totally use watercolor for this if you wanted it. Totally. Yeah. - If you didn't tell me you were working with ink, I would think it was watercolor for sure. - Yeah, they're pretty interchangeable. And actually this acrylic ink is mixes really well with gache, which is also a really fun thing that you can substrate that, I mean, so not substrate like material that you can dilute. Okay, so now we've got basically all the parts of our critter here and we will add detail, but I just wanna make sure that it's dry enough. So maybe while ours are drying and you all are finishing, finishing at least the base, we can chat for a minute. - Yeah. I love this. So how do you prepare for Autumn? Are you a Halloween person? Are you into decor? Is I, I mean I know it's a busy season in book publishing so maybe you're just promoting, promoting, promoting. Tell me what your fall is like. - Okay, so well two things. First of all, I live in this neighborhood in Portland that is super famous at in October for the decor. So, and there are a few neighborhoods in Portland that go all out and I live in one of them and so by D and there's a lot of kids in my neighborhood. My neighborhood is like you've ever heard of the Portland bike bus goes down my street. So lots of families and kids in my neighborhood. And there there is a, I live a few blocks from what's called the Alameda Ridge and there's some really big houses on that ridge and they all like, most of them go like insane for Halloween. Yeah, it's pretty great. And all the houses in the neighborhood are most of them. And so by peer pressure we, we've lived here for three years in this house. We've had to like decorate for Halloween, but now we get really into it. In fact, my dog milkshake does not like Halloween. She is terrified of people coming to the door and she gets super stressed out. So this year we're taking her to my parents' house for the night so that clay and I can like enjoy Halloween and like walk around our neighborhood and hand out candy and get dressed up. Yeah. So I'm really excited. So - I wanna say from Lisa Congen designed and style Halloween lawn decor. I know, - That would be fun. Yeah, I, my neighborhood's crazy. It's so fun and neighbors, like even neighbors without kids like get super into it. So - Neighborhoods - Like that. And I love, I like pumpkin spice season. Like I just am into all the cozy things and I love baking and drinking tea and so I'm, I am very ready for, I love summer but I'm really ready for fall. And then in the business side of things, for me we're entering Q4, which is like for those of you who own

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businesses where you sell things or sell your art, like, you know, it's like the time gearing up to the holidays. And so it's like our busiest time starting with my calendar sales, which just started and, and then moving into like we, I have a store in Portland and then I have an online shop and so just getting all of the holiday stuff out and all of the gifts and preparing for all of the shoppers, it's like, it's a whole thing and it's starting like very soon. So yeah. - You haven't been, is your the shop that's still in cargo, is that the - One? Yeah, - Yeah. You haven't been to Lisa's shop in, in cargo, like the larger sort of emporium, it's such a special way to see your work in all, in all its - Iterations. Thank you. - I haven't been there. I highly recommend it even as someone who does not live in Portland, but recently yes. When I recently visited anyone's able to see that. - Yeah. - Well yeah, I know for anyone, like you're saying, small business owner or even an artist who sells something, calendars, I'm always impressed when I see calendars this early. I feel like the night before Christmas I'm like, oh yeah, I had that card design. I was gonna do something with - I know, five years. Well I, I, I start designing my calendar and it's a lot of most years it's made from things that I've already created and maybe I'm changing the colors so that the whole calendar is in the same color palette and stuff like that. But like, so it's not like I'm making 12 new pieces of art necessarily, but I start working on my calendar in July and then we work with a local printer. So ours is usually printed by the beginning of September. Great. Yeah, - That's feel nice too with just the, the landscape of online and online retail and so forth to be able to work with a local printer. That's so cool. - Yeah, well I'm really lucky, like there's, you know, a lot of businesses have focused on producing things overseas over the last, you know, 10 or 20 years that they've been in business. And I have done that a little bit, but I've mostly ma have things made in the US and have, and it can be more expensive, but now it's actually less expensive because there's no tariffs if you're having something printed here. So because we've focused on printing in the US we use as many local printers as we can. So I've worked with four or five like local printers and manufacturers on different products and it's, it's pretty fun. Yeah, - I love that. That's awesome. Okay, well we're alright. I - Think we're dry enough now. Okay. Okay. This is the fun part. You get to give your, your bat a personality. So I'm gonna wait, this one's too thick. - So you're using a micron pen? - Yeah, I'm gonna, I'm gonna look at what thickness I have and what I think will show up the best. Of course, I didn't even test any of these pens before I sat down, so, okay. This one works pretty well. This is like a, an oh three, which it's not bad. And then I have a, if it works, yes, I have a one. I'm gonna use this one just so that things can show up a little bit. My detail shows up a little bit better. So the first thing I'm gonna do is give my bat some eyes. Now you can make your eyes however you want, but I'm gonna give mine really big eyes and hopefully you can see these and I'm gonna have him like giving a side eye here. Yeah, - I love it. Almost like a, like a jack of lantern kind - Of. Yeah. Yeah. - Okay. - And then here's a like funny nose and what if bats have, well we don't really know but they have fangs so I'm gonna, instead of a mouth, I'm just gonna, you can't really see 'cause it's like, but I give my guy a little, little, a little mouth with some fangs. Maybe he looks funny. I'm also gonna like give some texture. So like make some line work on his chest. You know, this is all optional. - I feel like this is something that you do really well in and is like part of your recognized style right? Is these thank you patterns in these different fields, which I love. - Thank you. And I'm just like putting a little bit of texture in his ears. I apologize that my phone is like so, well I guess it's necessarily far away from the table so you can see the whole scene. But it's harder to see the detail when we film these things at Creative Bug. There's like multiple cameras catching all of the detail. - Yes. The guys are different. If you wanna revisit the October ivy, put it in the chat and if you're not already a subscriber, we're making it free this month and you can get a better idea of all the detail that Lisa puts into all her drawings if you

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watch that. 'cause yes, we have the closer cameras. - You can give your guy a little toes. I'm not gonna put any detail in the wings 'cause I kind of like them how they are, but the one I made yesterday, I don't know if it's gonna show up, but it's black and I, I used like a gel pen. - Oh cute. - To like make, it wasn't coming out dark enough, which is why I decided I had to do it in brown. But you can kind of see that, how that like pops on top. So would - You ever go back in and add more ink once you've gone on the Yeah, - Sure. I mean one thing we could do, I wouldn't do it on, well I guess you could even do it on top of the micron because Micron is the great thing about microns. It's, it's like archival. So it won't like, like if you were to use Sharpies eventually they'll turn purple or like fade. They're not archival initially they, they won't, wouldn't look any different. They're also permanent. But, but microns are archival ink, which are, which is why we love them. And if you paint on top of them, you know, so like one thing you could do is like go in and just like add some darker bits like in the corners that kind of make gi give the wing a little bit of like depth and dimension. - I love that. Just adding some shading with like, - Yeah, shading is the word, the word I'm looking for. - Another layer of ink and yeah, the microns are waterproof and archival like Lisa was saying. So they, they're nice. They play well with all the other materials. If you wanna add on top or below, I would also say like, feel free to add some bat, like draw another bat. I have a few bats going on my page. If you're a fast worker or you're just wanting to try out some different styles. - One of my classes, one of my daily drawing challenges, I feel like it was one of the most memorable filming experiences I ever had at Creative Bug because the creative bug offices were, something was happening. So we went to center for the book - Yes. - And recorded there. And for some reason I just had this super memorable experience filming that class and there was, there were so many outtakes that were so silly and we made a whole like blooper reel. Do you remember that? - I'll have to, yeah. I wonder if we have that somewhere in, I - Still have it somewhere. Anyway, it was when Brian was working there and we had so much fun. Anyway we made that in that class. The whole thing is like, you know, draw something five or seven ways, right? Like, so you're not just drawing one teacup, you're drawing, you know, eight teacups on the same page. And so that was a really fun class because you can kind of experiment with like, I had made this book called 20 Ways to Draw a Tulip. - Yes. - And Other 45 Other Fabulous Flowers or something like that. And it's, it's, it's not, it's out of print so it's really hard to get now that book. But we kind of modeled the class after the book. So we took like 30 different objects or things in nature and, and then I show you like, oh there's like five different ways you can draw this thing, you know? - Yeah. - As opposed to one way. And it's really freeing for the brain. - That book series is beautiful. Lisa Solomon, who's also one of our in directors also did, he has one check out your local library. 'cause if you can't find it, you know, in a used bookstore or maybe eBay, then your local library might have it. - I see them on eBay sometimes. Yeah. - Yeah. And I think that was painting. I put a link to the one that I think you're talking about the daily painting challenge. And for anyone who's hasn't joined us for our lives before, or if you have, and you just need a reminder, this will be back on the creative bug site in 24 to 48 hours. And so you'll be able to access it there and we'll send you a link directly to the recording if you wanna watch it again. And also don't forget to check out the Ink tober drawing challenge, the original one that we're making free this month. Okay. Your bat is looking really cute. Mine's still a bit damp, but I've been okay to draw on top of it. It hasn't been a problem. I'll sh I'm, he's funny. No, - He looks really worried, doesn't - He? He does Super concerned. He's like, where are my friends? I know I always silly that are like a mix between like a pig and a mouse. Yes. And mine are definitely looking like that on my paper. - Yeah. I gave mine a pig nose for sure. - I love it. It's so cute. Now do you ever add like other features, eyelids, eyebrows, things that like maybe you wouldn't actually see on a bat, but

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to give them more character? - Oh sure. Yeah. I realized like the wings probably, I think they connect to the feet also in IRL. So one thing I could, that I might do right now is actually just make that happen and I'll show you like in case anybody else wants to do it. Like the feet are also like all the appendages on a bat are like connected by, I just wasn't thinking about this. - The - Skin Yeah. Are connected by the, that's how they like the, the, the both the arms and the legs like help the bat to fly. So I mean not that it would be okay, it wouldn't be okay to like have a bat that whose wings were, and I don't even know if this is how bats are like technically if the anatomy is correct, but - It's an yeah stylized bat. - Yeah. - I think I wanna draw like a big long tongue out of one of my bats and I had to just do, they have big long tongues and I think some of them do. So - Okay, - I'm gonna ask - And then maybe I'll like, actually I think it's supposed to be like this, like the whole body. That's better. That looks good. Well a last minute fix it moment. I made it work. And even if, if I hadn't been able to, that also would've been fine. But I'm just, there we go. - I love it. Okay, I'm gonna add some tongues to mine 'cause I feel like my page, it's kind of blank here. - I can't wait to see yours and everyone else's. - I know we'll do a little share in about, you know, eight to 10 minutes. So feel free to add some other elements. Would you, would you be open to drawing another bat? Would you draw some flies? What other things might you add to yours? - Well, I don't have room for another bat, but on this page I ended up using like the whole piece of paper and I'm glad I did because I think otherwise it would've been too small for people to see. Yeah. Like I don't really know how to draw fly. Let's see, Lisa, can you like, I don't know, I could just draw. Oh, spiders. Spiders. Perfect. So I'm gonna draw some in with my pen. You could use your, - Your ink to do it. - Yeah. - Put some with your pen - And then yeah, I'm gonna like, like a little line and then I'll do the same over here. - This is fun. I, this is like not something I'd sit down to draw on my own. So I love being forced to think about like, okay, what would I draw if I'm gonna draw my bats? - To be honest, neither would I, but you know, we were brainstorming what could we draw? Yeah. And it made the most sense to me. Like it's not something a lot of like ink tober challenges are actually all spooky things. - Yes. - So we just wanted to get into spooky season, I guess. - Yeah. If anybody is participating in another kind of challenge this month, whether it be draw tober, paint, tober ink, tober, feel free to share in the comments. I think some people are just sharing some memories of either meeting you Lisa or watching your previous classes in the chat, which is so nice to see. Yeah, we're just playing along, playing with our ink here, our micron pens and our acrylic ink with water. Sounds like some people are doing paint tober with a Abby painter. Abby. Oh - Fun. I love Abby. Yeah, that's great. There we go. - And is also your way cute. I love your little bats. - Yeah, Abby lives in Portland - Too. Yeah, you can, you're gonna have to put this on your porch for all your trick or treaters. - Yes, I do have like, I cover my front door with these like tiny bats. - Oh, cute. - Yeah. So, and then we put them, we have a wreath and we put them all over the wreath and it's pretty fun. - Does your bat have a name? - My bat? - Yeah. Looks like a herald to me. - I was just gonna say Harry. All right. And let's, let's hand letter his name then. - Okay. We'll do a hand lettering and then after we're done hand lettering the name maybe we will let everyone put their cameras on and we'll un spotlight Lisa. We can look at everybody's bats. Oh, so we put hers in the jam. That's so cute. I love your penmanship, Sophie. It's very like sleepy hollow. Like beautiful calligraphic. Oh yeah. Sleepy Hollow is definitely something for the season along with Nightmare before Christmas. Your lettering is always such a beautiful thing to behold Lisa. Oh, thank you. Still have not figured out how to do lettering. I think I'm gonna write Happy Halloween. Oh, but I feel like I wanna do that in black. I need some black ink somewhere. I must surely have some black ink in this huge tray. The one nice thing about doing this from the creative bug office is I have a closet full of supplies too. - Yes you do. - I can go run and

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get Okay. A few more minutes and then we'll sh we'll do cameras and show what we've made. - Oh my gosh, how fun. Twink? - Yes. I'm so good. I'm gonna show you my pink bats in a minute. I was gonna say the pink bats are, do you know the illustrator Lisa Beatrice? Nia? She does like fluffy squishy, bitty itty. She's Italian but lives in Paris and she's like a, I think so pretty well known. She has a character about a little bat who's pink. So that's kind of like Oh, cute about it. - Yeah. - Okay. Okay folks, I'm gonna just write my happy Halloween, which looks kind of terrible but we'll go with it. No, no, no, no. Like we're not gonna criticize ourselves. I just did a pair test. Okay. Share - My pink bats. Oh my gosh. Look how cute. Wait, put your, put your highlight yourself. Oh boy. Because I can't see us. You're too - Small. Okay, let me do it real quick and then, and then everyone else can share then - Oh my god, I, you know what I love most about yours? The giant ears. I feel like my ears aren't big enough so good. Yay. - Your, I gotta work on my lettering. Okay, let's see. I'll, I'll, we'll maybe un spotlight me and Lisa so that we can do everyone in a gallery view and everyone can hold theirs up to share. Yeah, - I would love - To see that made. Thanks Twinkie Chan for saying that. Yeah, I'm gonna like put my, a little bit. Oh Harry, I love the lettering. - There he is. You know when you're, okay, there we go. - Okay, I'm gonna look at, I'm gonna go to Gallery view if you guys have that option in your upper right where it says view and you go to Gallery view, if anybody wants to turn on their cameras, feel free to share. I see a lot of people's faces, but I don't see anybody's bats yet. - Oh wait, I need to go to Gallery View. How do I do that? If you go to, I don't think I can 'cause I'm in Spotlight. - Oh, - That's - Okay. Some people disabled the camera by the host. Let's see if we can change that. Ivy, can you help with that? Hide non-video participants. We don't wanna do that. Sorry for the technical challenge if we can't have people share on camera. - I know. - Bummer. If you, I don't know if you're able to drop an image in the chat, we'd love to see it there. I'm sorry, people's cameras are not working. I'm not sure why that is. We'll try to figure that out for the next one. Okay, so I'm gonna go back to speaker view and that way we can see Lisa's, if you guys can figure out how to add your bats in the chat, we'd love to see it. We'll also put this live back on the site in 24 to 48 hours and you can actually add your images there in the gallery. We love, like as someone who's an instructor and also as part of Creative Bug staff, like we are always looking at the gallery images and we love to see how people interpret the PO prompts and what they make. So we really enjoy that. Please don't be shy and feel free to add your images. Oh my God. Oh my - Gosh. - Johari. That is - So cool. That's - Adorable. - So cool. I love it. I love that's so, I love your lettering too. Very - Cool. Lettering's really nice. Oh my God. Just keep, keep those in the chat. We just keep seeing those. We'll have a few more minutes. I, I wanna say a little bit about the January live but also just as far as like the fall season and what you're up to. I know as we approach holidays people find it really hard to fold in creativity. How do you keep a balance for yourself? Like how do you with all of - You know - Obligations? - It's hard. I also try really hard to not over commit to things in the holidays. It's hard. There's a lot of like events and parties, especially in December and I'm a, oh my gosh, I am now I'm just looking at everybody's bats. These are so cool. - They're great. - Yeah and I, I think for me I need like a certain amount of downtime and I'm really lucky that like I, you know, people who are knitters can probably relate to this too. But like I'll just watch a TV series and draw at the same time just for fun. Like not for work. Wow. Look at that one flying. That is so cool. - That's really cute. That posture is really nice. - Yeah, these are all so great. I love them. There's nothing more satisfying about like doing a live drawing and then washing what people have done while you've been drawing. It's like one of my favorite things. I love it. So just prioritizing downtime, you know, in between the things is really important and, and using that downtime like I find drawing very relaxing and so like just in the same way that a lot of people find needle work or knitting,

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relaxing and I just give myself permission to to do, you know, to draw while I'm, you know, listening to music or to podcasts or TV or whatever in the evening. And that's sort of like how I stay grounded during the holidays. - That's such a good reminder to like time out for yourself and do whatever it is that you find the most peaceful or Yeah. Could that be reading a book? Could it be going on a walk? I know you are also really bit into cycling. Does, - I do ride a bike a lot but in the winter much less outside especially than I do say right now. And so I actually have more and you just don't train as much in the winter And so, you know, I inevitably have more time in the morning when I normally am on my bike and more time on the weekends to be creative. And so, you know, I think the important thing is like not filling up my time with too many obligations. - Yeah. - Otherwise - I remember - Get pretty stressed out. Yeah, - I think it's also really nice to hear that as someone who draws professionally for a living and all the time that you still find joy in drawing. And is - That, is that I love, it's like I love drawing so much. Like my favorite days are days when I, even if it's a work assignment when especially if it's one that I'm excited about or if I'm like gonna design a new line of greeting cards or whatever. Like that's just like my most fun day is listening to podcasts or music and drawing. I love the best. Yeah, I, I love my job so much. There are parts of my job that stress me out and sometimes client work stresses me out, but depending on the client and what the job is and like how it's going but course, you know, 'cause a lot of client work is like being art directed and you know, clients can be really nitpicky about how things come out and what they want because they're paying you so, you know, so I love like drawing for myself the most. Yeah. The most fun - Some other people put in cooking or knitting or setting if you're bad. I think this is good too. Especially when I feel like even for myself, if I'm sitting on the couch it can be easy to like, oh I'm gonna look something up on my phone and oh, while I'm on here I'm gonna check Instagram and then 40 minutes have passed and you're like, what did I just do? Yeah. And setting I feel like could be helpful to be like, okay you get five minutes of this and then you need Yeah. Find downtime not on a screen somewhere or - Right. I feel like the amount of screen time is super relative to like how much time I actually spend being creative because when I'm immersed in a creative project I don't go on my phone and I love so much so that like people will be texting me like, where are you? What are you doing? And I'm just so tuned into what I'm doing that you know, I'm not paying attention to my phone and it's an like in a way, I mean obviously when I'm on my bike I'm not on my phone either so that, that's pretty helpful. Yeah. But it's good to have things that immerse you so much that you're not paying attention and that you don't care about social media or checking your email. Yeah, yeah. - As somebody who listens to podcasts or music or watches sometimes when you draw, do you have any recommendations for things that you're enjoying right now? - I love Amy Puller's new podcast. It's called Good Hang and she like interviews other famous people sometimes comedians, sometimes just like other actors and I just love her. She's so real and relatable And she's also a gen Xer like me, so like I love her take on things. That's one of my favorites. I find it really funny and lighthearted. I do listen to a lot of cycling podcasts. Oh yeah, okay. Yes. Which probably don't interest most people listening. And yeah, so I do also sometimes listen to books, audio books and especially in the winter I tend to get like really cozy with my, with my like audio books that take place in Paris or wherever, you know? Yeah. - Are you watching Great British Bake Off? - Yes, I'm, I haven't watched episode. Which one is just came out Back to school is the last one three year four. Yeah. I haven't seen that one yet just 'cause I was out of town over the weekend so I haven't watched - It. When you said season earlier, that's the first thing I thought of. - Yeah, I love great British bakeoff so much. I also just, we are on the last episode of the last season of Gilded Age, which is like, I went down a rabbit hole with that in the last two months. - That's very visually

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inspiring, right? - What - The Gilded Age, that's a very visually - Beautiful, well it's just like visually beautiful and then it's so, it's such good storytelling, it's like pretty predictable and like everything kind of always works out, which is, you know, you can kind of, but I still love it so much and I really love the acting so good. Yeah, - I love that - The costumes are insane. - Ann is saying yesterday break Gray British Bake off in the UK was chocolate week, so that's, ooh that probably that I think comes out on Friday. - Okay, good. Yeah, I, I was outta town last weekend so I need to cut and I've been super busy every day. Actually last night I walked watched the World Championships of Road Cycling for Women, which was a very long race. So I, I think maybe tonight or tomorrow I will watch Great British bakeoff. Yeah, - I love it. People are still putting their bats in the chat there so Oh yeah, I love this one. That was adorable. - So - Cool. A little verbal one. These are so good you guys. I saw someone say that this was their first time drawing as an adult on a live event. I would just remind people that Lisa's classes make it so approachable to bring who, whoever you are at whatever level that you come in, like watching any of her classes, especially the drawing ones for the first time I think can be a really great place to start if you're unsure about drawing. - And also if you don't have ideas, I think the hardest thing for people when they sit down is just like, I don't know what to draw. So you just draw along with me with whatever I'm drawing and I'll kind of show you how I approach it. - Yeah, that's a great, great advice. So check out all of Lisa's classes. Her sketchbook series is also really great if you're interested in other types of media beyond drawing. And then I will say too that we're planning something really fun and exciting for January about kicking off creativity, using collage as the medium. It's gonna be one of our paid events so it's a little bit longer, a little bit more in depth and ticket sales for that will go on soon, I think Black Friday for sure in a few weeks. So keep an eye out for looking out for that live event in January. It be fun. It's gonna be so exciting. A great way to start the year. I feel like recommitting to yourself and your creativity is something that can be hard to do, but the new year always feels like a right time to, to reinvest in yourself and, and it's, it's always nice to have like a perspective from one of our favorite and longtime creative book artists. Lisa, thank you. Thank so much for joining us, beginning of this very busy season for you and we wish you luck in your upcoming shows and your holidays. Thank you. And we'll see you in January, if not before. And thank you everyone for joining. A reminder that you'll get a link to the recording, which will be back on the site. Feel free to add a picture of your adorable bat in the class gallery. We love seeing those. It makes everyone so - Happy. I've seen a lot of purple bats today and it's making me very happy. - It's so great. Everyone have a great fall and a great October and we'll see you again soon. Bye.

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