PROJECT TWO

NESTED TOY

OBJECTIVE
Create a set of nested three-dimensional ‘toys’ out of illustration board or heavy stock paper that invite a specific type of play (see ‘categories of play’ below), where ‘play’ is a mental attitude, not a predefined behavior. Experiment with illustration board or foam core to recognize its constructive and creative potential. Practice accuracy in cutting, folding and assembling. Integrate planning with execution to craft a complex, harmonic set of designed objects. Formal considerations (how elements are designed to look and interact) trump literal recognition (ie. appearing realistic or familiar). Forms should be abstracted rather than representational, though subtle symbols or references to literal meanings may be included when it strengthens the overall concept.

Play is described by mental attitudes and motivation rather than any particular defined behaviors. Some characteristics of play include that it is voluntary and self-directed. During play, the process is valued above achieving a particular result. Any rules or structure are also voluntary and not dictated by physical necessity. Play is imaginative and removed from ‘real-life.’ Play is an active state where the mind is engaged and relaxed (as opposed to entertainment, which is passive.)

A toy is an object that invites play and may appeal to any age or species, not just children and humans. Toys are often tailored toward different categories of play, such as:

exploration and discovery
construction
imagination (pretend / role-play)
games & puzzles
sport
instruments (electronic / musical)
learning / education

SCHEDULE
APRIL 24: Introduce project 2

APRIL 29: 3 concept sketches [due]

MAY 1: Mock-up [due]

MAY 6: Individual meetings.

MAY 8: [Final critique] Present projects in class. Upload three images of work to canvas.

PROJECT REQUIREMENTS
FORMS: Create a minimum of 3 diverse shapes or a minimum of 6 uniform shapes. Forms should be fully dimensional—employing height, breadth and depth. Forms should nest inside of larger forms. Forms must use color (no text or images).

SIZE: Smallest form must be at least 2 inches in each direction.

TOOLS: Xacto, plain, illustration board and/or heavy stock paper. Adhesives may be used but should not be visible in final models.

EVALUATION
Conceptual and aesthetic refinement evident in final forms;

Process and level of alternative explorations demonstrated by evolution of preliminary and draft models;

Craftsmanship and presentation.