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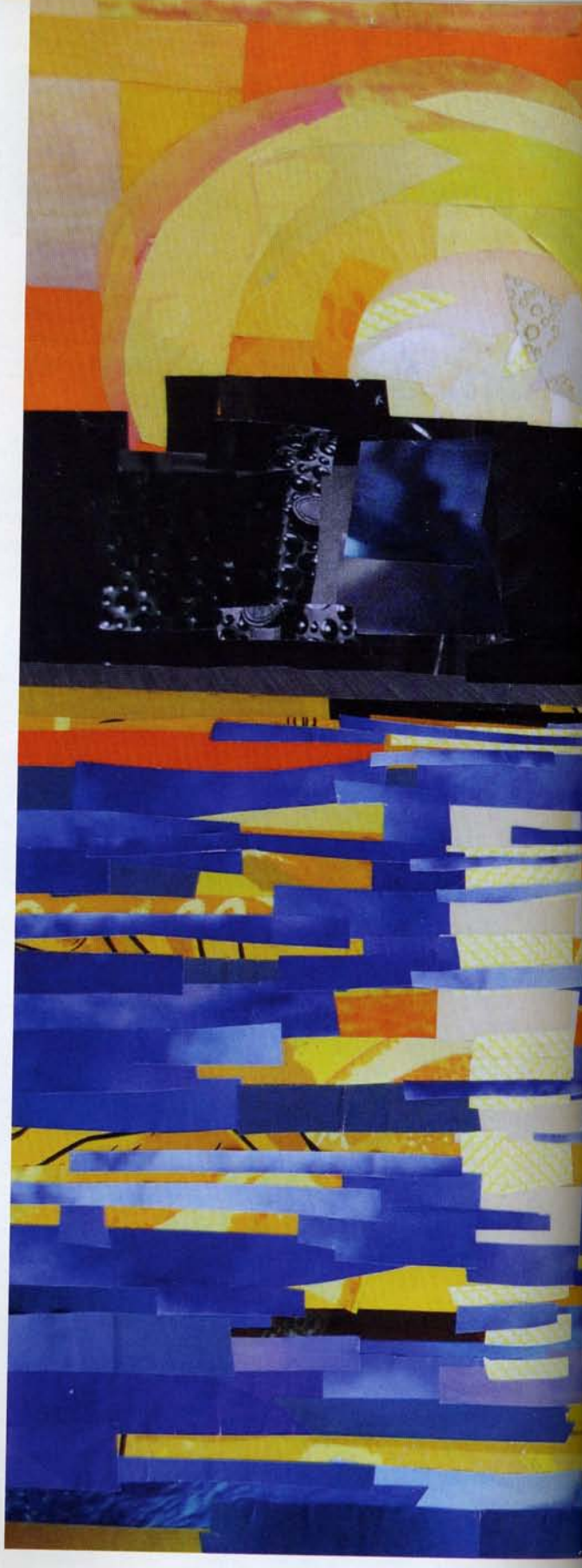
PAINTING WITH PAPER

ARTWORK BY MEGAN COYLE & WANDA EDWARDS
BY AMBER DEMIEN

We all view the world in which we live in different ways. Some see the grand scheme of things, while others absorb the nuances of life. When a painter puts brush to canvas, she builds color upon color, starting with nothing, and, through replicating what she sees or imagines, ends with her own view of the world. These differences in perspective are the basis of art — unique, ever-changing, and completely personal.

Artists Megan Coyle and Wanda Edwards each have their own special perspective of the world, like any other artist, however they do have something in common. When Megan and Wanda look at the world around them, they see scraps of paper. ➔

THE PAPER PAINTINGS THAT MEGAN AND WANDA CREATE ARE LIKE THOSE COMPOSED OF OIL OR ACRYLIC IN THAT THEY ARE BUILT OF COLOR AND FORM.



TAKING A CLOSER LOOK

The paper paintings that Megan and Wanda create are like those composed of oil or acrylic in that they are built of color and form. One might even have trouble distinguishing their work from traditional paintings — that is until you take a closer look, and find a treasure trove of tiny unexpected details displayed on each scrap. It is the technique — of searching out just the right papers, in just the right colors and patterns, and piecing them together in an intricate collage — that sets this art form apart.

A REAL PAGE-TURNER

As a kid, Megan was an avid reader of pop culture magazines, and would use the pages to wallpaper her room with her favorite musicians and movie stars. "I didn't realize it at the time, but my experience paging through images in magazines, cutting and posting them on my walls, was my beginning with the medium of collage," explains Megan. As she entered high school, Megan's interest in art began to grow, and she experimented with a variety of mediums before discovering collage.

Megan begins each collage with a sketch, then pages through magazines choosing images with an interesting use of color. She cuts out the images, and then cuts each image into small scraps, focusing on color and texture. Megan adheres these scraps over her sketch, working on small areas at a time, and gradually spreading outward. ➔