Directions for creating the Mandala

1. Carefully align and tape the circle template pieces together, to create a 14" circle.

2. On the _back_, draw a heavy layer of graphite over the circle and hexagram lines. This will be your graphite transfer (sort of like making your own carbon paper).

3. Tape your circle/ hexagram template onto a large piece of white drawing paper, and trace over the line of the circle as careful as you can, to transfer the design onto the large paper. You don't need to trace the hexagon—merely mark the 6 corner points.

4. Remove the transfer template, and use your ruler to draw the hexagon by "connecting the dots". _Keep the transfer template handy—it may get used again soon._

5. Draw diagonal connecting lines (3 of them, total) between the 6 points of the hexagram.

6. Now it's your choice: using your ruler and compass, begin to creatively divide the 6 segments into a variety of geometric patterns. Experiment and explore…

7. _Important:_ you'll only need three segments completed, because the (negative) shapes you cut out from one half of the circle will become the positive shapes for the other half.

8. Choose & design a 'personal' icon or symbol to draw in each of the segments (you can use the same symbol, or three different ones). The icon/symbol/character etc. should be something that reflects yourself, or something that you like or relate to.

9. After your drawing is complete, carefully cut out the shapes with your X-Acto knife. Cut these shapes super-carefully, as you will need to glue them down on the opposite half of the circle.

10. You will need a piece of black matte board or black paper to assemble your mandala on. The black board or paper should be cut in a square, at least 15" on each side, but no larger than 20" on each side. Measure and mark the exact center of the black background.

11. Using the paper with the cut holes/shapes as a guide, align and glue the cutout shapes onto the black background, to make the opposite halves of the circle (forming a positive/negative relationship).