O'Keeffe Flower Paintings



Georgia O'Keeffe: White Trumpet Flower

desktop work artwall



Your assignment: 2 Flower Paintings (one can be bones) using 2 different color schemes. *"Georgia O'Keeffe: A Portrait," Photo by Alfred Stieglitz, 1918.* "Georgia O'Keeffe: A Portrait," Photo by Alfred Stieglitz, 1922



1. Georgia O'Keeffe: Focused on transforming nature into abstraction. Known for close-ups of flowers & cow bones





This is an abstracted landscape painting



Cottonwood III, 1944

Qualities of Georgia O'Keeffe's Paintings

- Naturalistic
- Abstract
- Organic Shapes
- Warm Colors
- Cool Colors
- Moody



Yellow Orchid Georgia O'Keeffe

Facts on Georgia O'Keeffe:

- Born in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin; Moved to New Mexico in 1949
- Studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and at the Art Students' League of New York.
- Known for her purity of form, close-up views of flowers & cow bones
- Used her art to express ideas and sensations that she could not express through words.
- O'Keeffe's career spanned the entire period of modern art.















"Nobody sees a flower really; it is so small. We haven't time, and to see takes time ... like to have a friend takes time." Georgia O'Keeffe



White Trumpet Flower

What does O'Keeffe mean by this quote?

Georgia O'Keeffe started drawing & painting with "Naturalistic Representation"



Apple Family Still life:

Characteristics:

organic shapes, warm colors, blending Value contrast



• O'Keeffe's flowers gradually went from <u>naturalistic</u> <u>representations</u> to less realistic looking <u>abstractions</u>. They represent the beauty she saw in nature.







"Red Canna," 1923.



"Petunia," 1925.



"Blue Flower," 1918.



"She portrayed the world simply as she saw it and her vision had many unusual perspectives. Flowers were her favorite subjects and she would sometimes paint flowers very close-up or very far away, or sometimes she would only show us a part of her subject on the canvas. She gave us this new perspective because she wanted to make us look at the beauty of flowers in a new way."

"Series I – From the Plains," 1919.

• Abstract ion of Texas's wide skies and fierce storms that underscores the sense of creative independence she had know there.



"Out Back of Marie's II", 1930



This painting consists of intense colors, sharp contrasts, and extraordinarily delineated contours of New Mexico's landscape.

Ram's Head, Blue Morning Glory," 1938,

• *"The hard, intricate shapes"* of an animal's skull and horns are offset by the soft, relatively simple petals of a flower. By juxtaposing two vastly different subjects for which she had become famous – flowers & skulls – O'Keeffe wittily implies that they are complementary forces in nature.



"Pelvis Series, Red with Yellow," 1945.



 O'Keeffe collected cow bones from the New Mexico landscape and painted some of them with wild abstract colors.

A series that represent O'Keeffe's thoughts and emotions.



How might these paintings convey emotion?

GEORGIA O'KEEFFE Series I: No. 1, No. 3 and No. 4

Why flowers??

Georgia O'Keeffe States:

"A flower is relatively small. Everyone has many associations with a flower.

You put out your hand to touch the flower-lean forward to smell it-maybe touch it with your lips almost without thinking- or give it to someone to please them.

Still ,in a way, nobody sees a flower, really, it is so small – we haven't time and to see takes time, like to have a friend takes time.

If I could paint the flower exactly as I see it no one would see what I see because I would paint it small like the flower is small. So I said to myself – I'll paint what I see – what the flower is to me but I'll paint it big and they will be surprised into taking time to look at it – I will make even busy New Yorkers take time to see what I see of flowers."

Oleg Turchin – contemporary artist.








































































































Mrs. Meisner's Examples (Inspired by Okeeffe):







Mrs. Meisner's examples from Observation...



Paint in Layers!









Painting from Observation:



Photo of flowers I Painted from



My interpretation of the tulips

Layers & Blending in Oil





Adding a Background:







Taking Photos is a good way to find a good composition:













Bones!





INTERESTING FACT

Did you know watercolor is spelled 2 ways?

WATERCOLOR- American

WATERCOLOUR- British

WATERCOLOR TECHNIQUES

- <u>1. Color wheel Y, O, R, P, B, G</u>
- 2. Wash Wet watery paint; Translucent
- 3. WET ON WET using wet watery paint on wet paper.
- **4. WET ON DRY** wet paint on dry paper.
- 5. DRY ON DRY paint with little water on dry paper.



More techniques...

- 6. DRY ON WET dry brush with little water on wet paper.
- **7. LIFTING OFF** applying wet paint to dry paint and blotting with a paper towel to lift off paint.
- 8. DROPPING IN COLOR adding color to a wet area; let it blend/bleed & spread
- 9. Fade, Blend, Value scale

10. Modeled 3D objects – Making something look 3D with tints & shades



FADE OR BLEND - Technique

Painting 2 colors next to one another and letting them blend

together.



VALUE GRADATION

Using black or another color to make a color darker, or using more water to

make a color lighter.



http://caroljessen.blogspot.com/2009/11/exercise-in-gradation.html

<u>COLOR SCHEMES – combinations of</u> <u>colors that create a certain mood</u>



- 1. Warm Colors
- 2. Cool Colors
- 3. Complimentary
- 4. Analogous
- 5. Monochromatic

WARM: red, orange and yellow



Georgia O'Keeffe Paintings Oriental Poppies, 1927

COOL: blue, green and purple



Georgia O'Keeffe Paintings Black and Purple Petunias

<u>COMPLIMENTARY COLORS</u> <u>Colors that are opposite on the color wheel.</u>

Red & Green. Blue & Orange. Yellow & Purple.



<u>ANALAGOUS COLORS</u> <u>Colors that are side by side on the color wheel.</u>



<u>MONOCHROMATIC</u> <u>A single color with tints and shades.</u>







Stop here.



SKETCHBOOK PRACTICE

•	2 Sketch	Book Pages
---	----------	------------

- 1st Page
 - Separate into 6 sections.
 - Choose 6 watercolor
 Techniques to practice.
- 2nd Page
 - Separate into 6 sections
 - Choose 6 color schemes to practice.

Wet on wet	Wet on dry
Dry on dry	Dry on wet
Lifting off	Dropping in color

Basics of Drawing flowers...

- 1. Draw a rectangle border.
- 2. Lightly sketch out the basic shapes.
- 3. Modify stem, leaves, & petals to be in proportion
- 4. Shade in light, medium, & dark areas
- 5. Add details & color last. Use fades & blends.



<u>**1. Zoom out –</u>** Lots of background space or Multiple flowers.</u>









<u>2. Zoom in</u> – Flower fills the entire space. Some background is seen









<u>**3. Zoom in more**</u> – Crop the flower the flower goes beyond the space









4. Extreme close up or Abstraction









Directions:

- 1. Draw oversized, organic shapes for flowers in pencil.
- 2. Paint a medium value color all over flower. Then paint background a darker or lighter value.
- 3. Add tints (lights) and shades (darks)
- 4. After it's dry, add final darkest darks next to lightest lights for HIGH CONTRAST!

PAINTING TIPS!

- Always put your name 1st.
- LIGHTLY SKETCH design in pencil first.
- PAINT IN LAYERS
 - 1ST Paint bottom layers
 - 2nd Paint middle layers
 - 3rd Paint details/textures
- BRUSHES
 - BIG for large spaces
 - MEDUIM for medium spaces
 - SMALL for details