


Still Life based on Joseph Kleitsch: Abroad and At Home in Old Laguna

Overview	Create a unique still life watercolor painting inspired by <i>Joseph Kleitsch: Abroad and At Home in Old Laguna</i> exhibition currently on display at Laguna Art Museum.
Standards	<p>K:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • K.VA:Cr3: Explain the process of making art while creating. <p>1:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.VA:Cr3: Use art vocabulary to describe choices while creating art. <p>2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2.VA:Cr3: Discuss and reflect with peers about choices made in creating artwork. <p>3:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3.VA:Cr3: Discuss, reflect, and add details to enhance an artwork’s emerging meaning. <p>4:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4.VA:Cr3: Revise artwork in progress on the basis of insights gained through peer discussion. <p>5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5.VA:Cr3: Use art vocabulary to describe personal choices in artmaking and in creating artist statements
Objectives	<p>The student will...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use art vocabulary to explain their choices in their art • Explain the art-making process while creating their artwork • Identify still life artwork and create their own still life using the techniques learned in the lesson
Essential Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What role does persistence play in revising, refining, and developing work? • How do artists grow and become accomplished in art forms? • How does collaboratively reflecting on a work help us experience it more completely?
Vocabulary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • still life: a drawing or painting of an arrangement of typically inanimate objects such as flowers or food. • composition: how parts of an artwork are arranged • highlights: one of the lightest parts of an artwork • shadows: darker side of an object • form: the way that a shape takes up space • texture: the way something that is represented in an artwork would feel if you touched it • point of view: the style or angle represented by an artist in their artwork • value: the darkness or lightness of color • triangular composition: a strategy for setting up a balanced composition by envisioning objects placed in the corners of a triangle
Time Required	1 hour, with optional post-visit activities of varying lengths.
Featured Objects	<i>Joseph Kleitsch: Abroad and At Home in Old Laguna</i> displayed at Laguna Art Museum from June 24, 2023 - September 24, 2023
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Paper • Pencil

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Still life materials- flowers, fake food, shells, vases (you can select what you have in your classroom and allow students to arrange their chosen items to create their still life) ● Watercolor ● Paintbrushes ● Water cups ● Pitcher for water
<p>Procedure: I Do (5-10 minutes)</p>	<p>Introduce the Artist and Exhibition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Artist and Exhibition Description: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Leaving an impression was easy for California Impressionist painter Joseph Kleitsch. Notoriously sociable and admired by many, Kleitsch left his mark in Laguna Beach amid a prolific career that saw him follow his artistic impulses to many beautiful locations. ○ Arriving in the US from Hungary in 1902, Kleitsch eventually set his sights on the strong and clear light of Laguna Beach in 1920 after making a name for himself with still-life paintings and masterful portraits. His new surroundings inspired an abundance of colorful landscape paintings and street scenes born from his love for Laguna’s charming village, where he joined the Laguna Beach Art Association (now Laguna Art Museum.) From The Old Post Office to the glistening coastlines, Kleitsch purposefully chronicled Laguna Beach’s history and established himself as one of California’s very best artists along the way. ● Importance of Still Life with Joseph Kleitsch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Still life paintings had a huge impact on Joseph Kleitsch’s artistic journey since the beginning of his career. He painted still life paintings throughout his life. As a young artist, he would often create small still life artworks that he could paint quickly and sell. There are various still life paintings displayed in the <i>Joseph Kleitsch: Abroad and At Home in Old Laguna</i> exhibition including paintings such as <i>Oriente</i> which depicts items from his wife’s Asian imports store and <i>Highlights</i> which is essentially a self-portrait of his artistry. <p>Joseph Kleitsch <i>Highlights</i> , c. 1928</p> 

Joseph Kleitsch *Oriente*, 1925



Introduce the Still Life Vocabulary:

- still life: a drawing or painting of an arrangement of typically inanimate objects such as flowers or food.
- composition: how parts of an artwork are arranged
- highlights: one of the lightest parts of an artwork
- shadows: darker side of an object
- form: the way that a shape takes up space
- texture: the way something that is represented in an artwork would feel if you touched it
- point of view: the style or angle represented by an artist in their artwork
- value: the darkness or lightness of color
- triangular composition: a strategy for setting up a balanced composition by envisioning objects placed in the corners of a triangle



<p>Procedure- We Do (5-10 minutes)</p>	<p>Select objects for a class still life and engage students in discussion with the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● How can we set up this still life using the triangular composition strategy?● If I drew this on my paper, how can I represent that an object is closer to the viewer?● How can I scale objects to make it look realistic? Should this object be bigger than this one?● How can I use my watercolors to show light?● How can I use my watercolors to demonstrate shadows?
<p>Procedure- You Do (20-30 minutes)</p>	<p>Create Your Own Still Life</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. First, grab some of the items such as fake flowers and plastic food from the back table. Bring them to your table and arrange the objects however you would like. There are some tips to setting up and drawing a still life on a separate sheet.2. Before you begin your drawing, analyze your still life arrangement and notice the shapes, colors, and light of the objects.

	<p>3. Then, use a pencil to lightly sketch your still life arrangements. This first sketch should be simple without too many details.</p> <p>4. Use your watercolors to add color to your sketch. You can use more water to make your colors lighter. Use the lighter colors on parts of the still life that get more light. Look at where the still life is getting a shadow. Add a darker color to those areas. It may be helpful to let the artwork dry before adding the darker color to those areas. For a cast shadow, use a complimentary color to paint where the object "casts" a shadow.</p>
Accommodations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provide sentence stems for any written prompts ● Allow wait time for students to answer questions ● Provide extra time for students ● Provide pre-set up still life compositions
Assessment (5-10 minutes)	<p>Exit Ticket: Why are still life artwork important?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● K: Write 1 sentence and draw a picture to represent your answer ● 1st: Write 1-2 sentences ● 2nd: Write 2-3 sentences ● 3rd-5th: Write 3-5 sentences <p><i>**Provide a sentence stem for learners who need extra support:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● <i>Still Life art is important because _____.</i>
Extension	<p>My City Artwork</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joseph Kleitsch documented the changing landscape of Laguna Beach during his time there. He painted many landscapes that showed what Laguna Beach looked like during the 1920s. Use your medium of choice (colored pencils, watercolors, oil pastels, etc) to represent what your city looks like right now. <p>Art's Influence of History Research Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Research and write about how art influenced important moments in history.
Resources	<p>Laguna Art Museum https://lagunaartmuseum.org/exhibitions/joseph-kleitsch/</p>

Still Life

A still life is a drawing or painting of an arrangement of typically inanimate objects such as flowers or food.



Here are some tips to creating your still life:

1. To create a still life arrangement, make sure to stack items in a triangular composition. You can overlap some of the objects, but do not overcrowd the space.



2. Objects that are closer to you should be lower on the paper. Objects that are closer to you should overlap with the objects that are behind them.



3. Pay attention to the sizes of the objects. Examine which object is the largest and smallest. Make sure to compare the heights in relation to the other objects.

