
Flowers in a Vase

By Georges Rouault

Pronounced: Zhorzh Roo-oh

Keywords: Color, Fauvism, Line

Activity: Pastel Resist Stained Glass Painting



Keywords Defined:

- **Color** - an element of art. The hue, value, and intensity of an object. The primary colors are red, blue and yellow: every color except white can be created from various blending of these three colors.
 - **Fauvism** - art style led by Henri Matisse. The word Fauvism is French for "Wild beasts". It got this name because the paintings had bright and unusual colors. The subjects in the paintings were shown in a simple way, and the colors and patterns were bright and wild.
 - **Line** - an element of art; a continuous path of a point as it moves across a surface. A line can vary in length, width, direction, curvature or color.
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About the Artist:

Georges Rouault, was an artist who lived and worked in France about 100 years ago. He was born on May 27, 1871 and grew up in Paris France. His family wasn't particularly artistic, but his grandfather loved art. He used to take young Georges to the museums and the galleries to look at great paintings. Georges soon learned to love the shapes and colors and forms that artists created, and he wanted to be an artist himself.

When he was a teenager, Rouault got a job as an apprentice for a stained glass studio. He learned all the skills of making colored glass, cutting shapes and putting them together to make intricate stained glass windows

When he was a young man, he left the stained glass business and went to art school. He was married to a woman named Martha, the sister of another painter, Henri Le Sidaner. Most of Georges and Martha's lives they were poor. In order to earn a living as an artist he signed a contract with a famous French art dealer named Ambroise Vollard, who provided Rouault with an art studio and a salary in return for all of the artwork he created. Vollard had Rouault create many beautiful illustrations for books and wonderful religious paintings, however, Vollard was the owner of all of these pieces and kept most to himself. It was not until Georges was 66 years old that he started to become a well known artist when 42 of his works were exhibited in a show connected with the Paris Exposition Universelle (The World's Fair). Two years later Vollard passed away and Georges was finally released from his agreement to produce work only for Vollard. The courts agreed that he was the rightful owner of about 800 unfinished pieces of work left at Vollard's at the time of his death.

Rouault is one of the most famous painters of religious art of our time. His art is best known for rich colors with heavy black outlines. His style of art is considered to be Fauvism, which was lead by Henri Matisse. They almost look like stained glass windows glowing with light.

Georges Rouault died in February of 1958 at the age of 87. Unlike many artists, Georges had achieved such a level of fame before he died that he was awarded a State Funeral.

Possible Questions:

- What Colors do you see in the picture?
 - What Shapes do you see?
 - Do you see lines?
 - Have you ever seen a Stained Glass Window?
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Activity: Pastel Resist Stained Glass Painting

Supplies: Drawing paper

Pastels

Watercolors

Brushes

Water Dishes (Dixie cups)

Papertowels (bring from home)

Project Description:

1. Cover work space with either plastic sheets or an extra piece of drawing paper or papertowel. Distribute a pastels (**EACH CHILD WILL NEED ONE DARK COLOR**) , watercolors (they'll have to share), brushes, cups of water and papertowels around the classroom. (**NOTE: IF you have enough help, you may want to hold off on giving them the paint until it is actually time to paint, as they will be using the pastels first.**)
2. Give each student a piece of drawing paper. Have them sign their first names (only) along bottom somewhere.
3. Using the pastels, have the students color a picture of flowers in a vase. They should try to **concentrate on outlining these objects with their dark color**, filling them in with other colors of their choice. It is easiest to direct them to make rather large flowers and pots, and to try to fill the page with the drawing, that way outlining is easiest.
4. When they are done drawing, they may begin to paint watercolors over the drawing, filling in the background and all spaces. Note: The pastels should resist the watercolors and show through the areas painted (point this out to the children!)
5. Continue to paint until all areas of the white paper are painted. Be sure to mention that the children should choose different colors to paint at random on their designs; they do not have to be painted within the drawn lines - be CREATIVE!
6. Attach parent letters to back display as desired by the teacher! (Full names may go on the back of the paintings)
7. Sign off on Lesson Completed Sheet in Binder. Thank You!