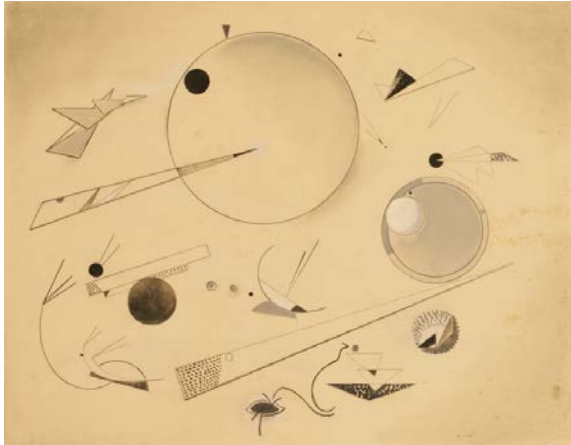




OGDEN MUSEUM  
OF SOUTHERN ART

## O-original Art Activities: Geometric Drawing Inspired by Will Henry Stevens



Will Henry Stevens, *Untitled, No. 23*, No date, Pencil and ink on paper,  
Will Henry Stevens Collection

**Will Henry Stevens** was born 1881 in Vevay, Indiana and was inspired by this pastoral setting from an early age. His father was the town's apothecary, and taught Stevens the basics of chemistry, which he would use later in life to create his own materials for making art. During his childhood on the banks of the Ohio River, Stevens' mother encouraged his artistic sensibilities through private lessons, and his grandmother introduced him to the Transcendentalist literature of the American Renaissance. At 16, he enrolled in the Cincinnati Art Academy and won a design competition that led him to New York City. While in New York, he became influenced by modernist landscape painting as well as the spiritual qualities of Chinese paintings from the Song dynasty, prompting Stevens to align his personal aesthetic with Eastern philosophies.

**Create a geometric drawing inspired by Will Henry Stevens.**

### Supplies

Paper, Pencil or Pen, Ruler, Color pencils

### Instructions

**Step 1:** What is your favorite shape?

**Step 2:** Use a pencil to draw your favorite shape on the piece of paper.

**Step 3:** What more can you add to your drawing? Try drawing more of the same shape but a different size. What other shapes can you draw? Use a ruler to make a straight **line**, if needed. Fill the page with shapes.

**Step 4:** Think about the **composition** of your drawing (where things are placed on the paper). What part of your drawing catches your eye? Where do the lines and shapes lead your eyes?

**Step 5 (Optional):** Is there more you can add to your artwork? Draw a background around your shapes.

**Step 6 (Optional):** Use color pencils to color your drawing.

### Vocabulary

**Composition** – the arrangement of elements in a work of art

**Line** in art is a mark made using a drawing tool

**SEE WILL HENRY STEVEN'S UNTITLED NO.23 IN WILL HENRY STEVENS: PERMANENT COLLECTION EXHIBITION AT THE OGDEN MUSEUM. CHECK OUT [OGDEN MUSEUM ONLINE](#) FOR MORE RESOURCES!**

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL [EDUCATION@OGDENMUSEUM.OR](mailto:EDUCATION@OGDENMUSEUM.OR)**

