Original Art Activities:
Abstract Tissue Paper Collage
Inspired by Marita Gootee

Marita Gootee is a Professor of Art at Mississippi State University. She received a MFA from Indiana State University in 1985 and a BA from the College of Mount Saint Joseph on the Ohio in 1981. She has been selected for 5 times for the Mississippi Invitational at the Mississippi Museum of Art that showcases the state’s most significant contemporary artists which is more than any other artist in the state. She grew up in Jasper Indiana as a middle child in a large family. She often feels like Atlas but knows laughter is best way to deal with life.

Create a tissue paper collage inspired by Marita Gootee’s photography.

SEE MARITA GOOTEE’S WINGS IN PHOTONOLA: CURRENTS 2020, HIGHLIGHTING THE WORK OF NEW ORLEANS PHOTO ALLIANCE MEMBERS AT THE OGDEN MUSEUM.

Supplies
Tissue Paper, Glue, Scissors, Cardstock

Instructions
Step 1: Look at Marita Gootee’s artwork, Wings. What do you notice about the artwork? What is the subject of the photograph? If you could touch the pink part of the photograph how do you think it would feel? What do the pink shapes look like to you?

Step 2: Abstract art often incorporates line, shape and color to create an image. What colors and shapes will you use in your collage? Will your shapes be organic or geometric? The subjects in Gootee’s photograph are pink organic shapes.

Step 3: Use scissors or your hands to cut or rip shapes from the tissue paper.

Step 4: Think about the composition of your collage. How will you arrange your shapes on your background? Take some time to try different arrangements. Try creating depth by layering shapes on top of one another. Does layering change the color created by the tissue paper?

Step 5: Once you have decided on a composition use glue to glue your shapes in place.

Step 6: Great job! You’ve created an abstract collage! Show your friends and family your amazing creation.

Vocabulary
Subject – the main focus or idea represented an artwork

Photograph - an artwork made by light falling on a light-sensitive surface, either photographic film or another device

Collage – artwork made of cut or torn fabric or paper and glue

Abstract – artwork that incorporates line, shape and color to create an image

Composition – the arrangement of elements within an artwork

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