



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART

O-original Art Activities: Mixed Media Still Life Inspired by Benny Andrews



Benny Andrews, *Interior with Cat*, 1988, Oil and collage, Gift of the Benny Andrews Foundation

Benny Andrews was a multi-racial artist born in 1930 in Plainview, Georgia. He grew up in the Jim Crow South and faced many social injustices. Andrews learned to incorporate the hardships he faced into his artwork. Andrews is most known for his minimalist figural work which focused on themes of oppression and injustice. Andrews developed a unique **technique**; a combination of painting and collage, which many describe as surrealist.

Find inspiration in your surroundings and create artwork from everyday life like artist Benny Andrews.

SEE BENNY ANDREWS' *INTERIOR WITH CAT* IN THE PERMANENT COLLECTION AT THE OGDEN MUSEUM.

Supplies

Paper, Color Pencils, Pencil, Eraser, Cut paper or Cloth, Glue

Instructions

Step 1: Look at Benny Andrews' painting, *Interior with Cat*, what do you notice about it? It is a **still life** of a room with a chair, table, and flower vase.

Step 2: Sketch an interior still life! Find a spot in the house that you would like to draw and begin to sketch! Draw what you see around you. I chose to draw my desk and the contents in and around it.

Step 3: Add color to the picture by using colored pencils.

Step 4: We also see that Andrews used **collage** to add texture and dimension to his painting. You can do this by using pieces of paper or cloth scraps. What colors or textures do you want to add to your artwork? Use scissors to cut scraps of paper or fabric to collage. Use glue to glue the scraps to your artwork.

Step 5: Good job! You've created a **mixed media** still life just like Benny Andrews!

Vocabulary

Still Life - an image of objects that don't move; genre of art

Collage - a technique using cut or torn fabric or paper and glue

Mixed Media - more than one material used to create artwork, such as found objects and fabric

Technique — how the artist uses their media

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QUESTIONS? EMAIL EDUCATION@OGDENMUEUSM.ORG

