



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART

O-original Art Activities: Abstract Landscape Inspired by Robert Gordy



Robert Gordy, *FIGURES IN A LANDSCAPE #1 (POOLS)*, 1981, Acrylic on canvas. Gift of the Roger H. Ogden Collection

Robert Gordy was a Louisiana artist best known for his extraordinary **compositional** skill and imaginative use of color, shape, and pattern. He was born in Jefferson Island, Louisiana and studied at Hans Hofmann. Gordy is known for his acrylic paintings that featured flat pictorial **landscapes** with repeated patterns and high-key colors. Gordy's **abstract** paintings show his masterful use of color and imaginative artistic intelligence!

Use patterns and shapes in your drawing to create an abstract landscape like artist Robert Gordy.

SEE ROBERT GORDY'S *FIGURES IN A LANDSCAPE #1* IN THE PERMANENT COLLECTION AT OGDEN MUSEUM.

CHECK OUT [THE O BLOG](#) FOR MORE RESOURCES!

QUESTIONS? EMAIL EDUCATION@OGDENMUEUSM.ORG

Supplies

Markers, Pencil

Instructions

Step 1: Look at Robert Gordy's artwork, *FIGURES IN A LANDSCAPE #1 (POOLS)*. What do you notice about his artwork? Gordy is an abstract artist who uses pattern, line, and color in his artwork.

Step 2: Plan your **composition!** Look to Gordy's work for inspiration in drawing natural shapes and plants! Gordy abstracts the forms of plants, pools and rocks into simple shapes of what they are! What natural elements will you include in your **landscape**? Use a pencil to draw your landscape.

Step 3: Add **abstract** figures to the landscape. Look closely at Gordy's work to help you draw figures.

Step 4: Add color to your drawing! Use markers to give your abstract figures and natural elements color.

Step 5: Add details to your landscape. You can draw more abstract **forms**, dots of color or fill it with color. How will you make your artwork unique? Be creative!

Step 6: Well done! You have just completed an abstract landscape inspired by Robert Gordy!

Vocabulary

Abstract – an artwork that is comprised of shapes and colors

Composition – the arrangement of elements within an artwork

Landscape – an image of the land, nature, or outside; genre of art

Form – A three-dimensional volume or the illusion of three dimensions as it relates to shape.

