



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART

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



Will Henry Stevens, *Untitled*, ND, Pastel on paper, Gift of Janet Stevens McDowell

Will Henry Stevens was an American modernist painter best known for his pastel paintings of the rural South landscapes, **abstractions**, and non-objective artwork. Stevens was born in Vevay, Indiana in 1881. He began as a self-taught painter and mixed his own pastel formulas. Later he went on to study at the Cincinnati Art Academy to refine his art skills. In 1921, Stevens began teaching at the Newcomb College in New Orleans until his retirement. Stevens became a prominent figure in the art world with his work in over 40 US museum collections today!

Find inspiration in natural landscapes and create artwork like artist Will Henry Stevens.

SEE WILL HENRY STEVENS' ARTWORK IN THE PERMANENT COLLECTION AT THE OGDEN MUSEUM.

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL
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Supplies

Colored Pencils or Crayons, White Paper, Pencil, Pencil Sharpener

Instructions

Step 1: Find an image of a lake that you would like to draw! You can Google Lakes or Sail Boats! I chose to draw Lake Pontchartrain! If you are unable to use the internet look up images of lakes or sail boats in books or look at Will Henry Stevens' painting for inspiration!

Step 2: Once you have found your inspiration image, begin to sketch the basic features of your scene with a pencil! I began with the sailboat and added the long causeway in the background. Stevens' view of the scene is incomplete, notice how the sailboats and the background color are in the middle of the paper and don't always reach the edge of the paper. Think about the **composition** of your drawing, will you keep your drawing in the middle of the page, like he did, or compose it differently?

Step 3: Once you've drawn your lake landscape, you can use crayons or color pencils to add color! Use light colors to render the scene to give it the feel of a bright sunny day. Start to color the subjects of the drawing, then move to the background. Stevens uses the sides of his pastels to color the sky and water, so I will also use the sides of my crayons to fill in the background!

Step 4: Well Done! You have just completed your drawing of a **landscape** inspired by Will Henry Stevens!

Vocabulary

Abstract – an artwork that is comprised of shapes and colors

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

Technique – how the artist uses their media

Composition – the arrangement of elements within an artwork

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