



Grades 8 and Up

Etel Adnan-inspired

Landscapes



Etel Adnan is a Lebanese-American artist who was also a highly accomplished philosopher, poet, and writer. In this lesson, we'll look at her landscape works for her colorblock-styled landscapes that focus on light, color, and composition.

Before you begin, introduce your students to Adnan's work through her [website](#). Discuss her diverse accomplishments and how they impacted her artwork, particularly her near abstract, shape-and-color-focused landscapes. For this lesson, we took the core concept of her work and combined it with the artform of modified Indonesian batiks using the resistive properties of tempera paint to create our landscapes with ink.



Lesson created by: **Keirsten Probst**



STANDARDS ADDRESSED:

- **VA:Cr1.2.11a** - Choose from a range of materials and methods of traditional and contemporary artistic practices to plan works of art and design.
 - **VA:Cr2.211a** - Demonstrate understanding of the importance of balancing freedom and responsibility in the use of images, materials, tools, and equipment in the creation and circulation of creative work.
 - **VA:Cr3.1.11a** - Engage in constructive critique with peers, then reflect on, re-engage, revise, and refine works of art and design in response to personal artistic vision.
 - **VA:Re9.1.11a** - Construct evaluations of a work of art or collection of works based on differing sets of criteria.
- VA:Cn10.1.1a** - Document the process of developing ideas from early stages to fully elaborated ideas.



ACCOMMODATIONS:

- Read directions
- Repeat and clarify
- Provide written instructions and visuals
- Visual aids
- Drawn directions
- Instructional videos ([inking](#) and [removing ink](#))
- Preferred seating
- ELL - use subtitles, translator, and dictionary

Supplies

- Royal Langnickel assorted flat and round brushes
- Royal Langnickel 1-2" hake brushes
- Mixed media or watercolor paper 11x14" (or larger)
- Water
- Paper towels
- Tempera paints
- Palette knives (optional)
- India ink
- Flat, water resistant surface larger than paper size
- Pencil
- Eraser
- Sketches of landscapes
- Chalk (optional)



Start creating!

1. Have students generate sketches of simplified landscapes, with particular emphasis on shapes and compositions. You can also have them plan out their colors ahead of time in their sketchbooks to extend the lesson.
2. Have students transfer approved concept to the final paper in pencil or chalk.
3. Introduce tempera paints, noting to not dilute paint. The thicker the better!
4. Allow students to experiment with tempera paint media if they haven't used it, or have had limited experience with it.
5. Have students begin layering down paint, leaving gaps between each major shape/object. Each section will need at least 4, non-diluted layers, of paint for the magic to happen.
6. In process critique for advanced and high school students. Students will implement feedback from their peers.
7. Once complete, call students up to sink. Layer on ink and allow to dry for 1-2 minutes.
8. Take a hake brush under running water and gently remove the layer of ink. You will notice exposed layers of color and thick black lines around each object if done correctly. Allow to dry.
9. Once dry, allow students to touch up certain areas of detail that were potentially lost and pops of pure color.

