

Abstract Scratch Art

Inspired by the abstract art of Jacques Hurtubise

Lesson plan prepared by Emma Hoch, Gallery Animator for the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia

Suggested Grade/Age Levels

Grades 1+

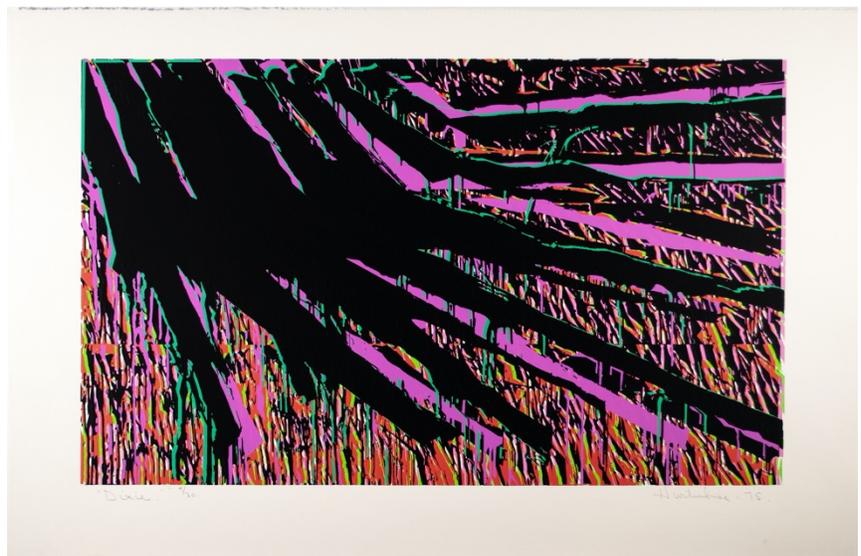
Subject Areas

- Visual Arts

Introduction and rationale

Jacques Hurtubise is known for being a revolutionary abstract artist and a key artist in the history of Canadian Abstract Art. Hurtubise has his own language of abstract art that pushed past the other artists of his time that were creating “hard edge” paintings.

Today, we will take inspiration from Hurtubise’s use of colours, shapes, patterning, and texture as we create our own abstract art. Abstract art being artwork that is not trying to represent a visual depiction of something.



Jacques Hurtubise, *Dixie*, 1975
Serigraph on paper, 4/30, 65.5 x 101.9 cm
Anonymous Gift, 2006

Set Up

- Access to a sink
- Coverage for desks/tables
- Clothing suitable for painting, or aprons.

Materials

- Thick paper - heavy cardstock or thin cardboard
- Crayons or oil pastels
- Black paint (tempera or acrylic)
- Paint Brush
- A skewer or toothpick

Process

- Draw a design in crayon or wax pastel on your sheet of paper/cardboard. Pressing firmly with the crayons or oil pastels into the paper to create a wax layer with crayons, or oily layer with pastels.
 - Make sure to draw and colour cover the entirety of the paper, leaving no blank spaces.
 - Paint over your entire drawing with black paint. You do not want to see any of your colourful drawing showing through. You may need more than one coat of paint to completely cover the colours.
 - Let the paint dry.
 - Use your skewer or toothpick holding it comfortable in your hand like a pencil and start to scratch the black paint away.
 - Continue scratching until you have completed your final abstract creation.
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