

Elements of Abstraction, Painting Freely

with Michael Gadlin



The Big Idea

In this workshop, students will gain confidence toward taking an **abstract approach towards painting**. Learn how practicing staying loose, leaning on intuition and your sense of design is so important and vital to an artist's practice.



You'll Need

- Any water-based paint (house paint)
- Old Brushes
- Various tools to lay on paint (sponge, chopstick, spoon, fork, spatula, etc...)
- Paint Marker, (Pencil, Pen, Sharpie)
- A surface to paint on (cardboard, wood panels, paper, mat board, paper bag, old bed sheet) - Preferably a thicker or heavy surface when painting on
- Step-By-Step video tutorial:
www.think360arts.org

The Plan

- Step 1-** Gather materials together.
- Step 2 -** Find and prepare surface for painting.
- Step 3 -** Fill water container.
- Step 4 -** Have tools and/or old brushes ready.
- Step 5 -** Start with the largest tool/brush.
- Step 6 -** Cover entire area w/ the strongest color you decide.
- Step 7-** Establish a shape that takes up much of the surface.
- Step 8 -** Now respond to the first mark or shape.



Teaching Artist Tip

- Think "Variety" when it comes to visual elements that work together in any piece. Not necessarily "matching" elements. Rather complimenting elements.
- What visually "feels" right together?
- Creating harmony aligns with all the elements in a piece, not just the color palette.

