

Miró: *People and Dog in the Sun*

Joan Miró was a Spanish artist who painted abstract stories, using his imagination for inspiration. He closed his eyes and drew lines “automatically.” Then, he looked at what he had created and turned it into a story.



Joan Miró, *People and Dog in the Sun*
1949, tempera on canvas, 81 cm. x 54.5 cm.
Emanuel Hoffmann Foundation, permanent loan
to the Öffentliche Kunstsammlung Basel

Discussion

Students talk about *People and Dog in the Sun* and learn about Miró's technique of automatic drawing to start an abstract picture and express his feelings.

They identify how the expressive lines and organic shapes make a balanced composition. They find positive and negative spaces in this abstract composition.

Project: Color Doodles

Students use Miró's automatic drawing techniques and create abstract works of art, using chalk pastels.