



Art With The Masters: Alexander Calder

Art In Motion

Description:

Participants will travel online to Paris and see Alexander Calder's studio and works. He lived from 1898-1976 and his friends called him Sandy. He was the Master of Sculptural Mobiles and other sculptures on a grand scale. His work is very pleasing and colorful and in a lot of his pieces he used primary colors. Participants will make their own mobiles out of supplies from home. This is great fun and a project for all ages. This is totally a mixed media project.

Process:

1. Participants need to find old clothes hangers for this project. They can be wire, plastic or metal.
2. Paint the hanger with one primary color.
Primary colors are: Red, Blue and Yellow.
3. Use any kind of paper (light weight to medium weight). Construction, Japanese papers (collage papers), Yupo paper, newspaper, magazine scraps etc. Participants choice.
4. Decorate these papers. Cut geometric shapes (squares, triangles etc.), animals, origami, etc. They can be cut for 3-D or 2-D. Get creative and explore different papers.
5. Using a paper punch or any item to make a small hole on top or the sides and even the bottom of your finished cut and decorated designed papers.
6. Finally, using fish line (if you don't want the hanging material to stand out) or any hanging material of choice and attach to the hanger.

Materials:

- Hangers
- Papers of any choice
- Scissors
- Mix Media to color the papers e.g. inks (black or color), glitter paints, washable markers, crayons, pens, colored pencils, watercolors, metal, tin, etc. Participants choice.
- Fishing Line, colored string, yarn, etc.
- Paper punch or something smaller.
Participants choice.

Betsy's Note and Tips:

I fell in love with Alexander's works a few years ago in Atlanta's High Museum. I was captivated by his imagination and creativity. I remember after seeing the exhibition (which by the way I went through twice) going home and painting an abstract painting from what I saw.