CREATE WITH THE COLUMBUS MUSEUM

Watercolor with Tea



INSPIRED BY

Karl Knaths, Duck Decoy, early 20th century, watercolor and ink on paper

Karl Knaths (1891-1971) was an abstract painter and educator. He painted scenes from his everyday life in a style known as Cubism. This style of painting often reduced its subjects to their most basic geometric forms. Knaths found inspiration in everyday objects and many of his favorite subjects were inspired by nature and his life Provincetown, Rhode Island. This painting uses muted watercolor paints in browns and greens to bring together a simple still life. What are some of your favorite things you see where you live? Create a tea painting inspired by Knaths' color palette and love of everyday scenes.







DIRECTIONS

Supplies:

- Tea Bags
- Water
- Shallow dish or cups
- Paper

Optional: marker, crayon, or pencil

Directions:

- 1. Fill shallow dish with water.
- 2. Add tea bag to dish. A variety of tea is best for exploring multiple colors, but a single type of tea will give you a lovely range of value. Value is how light or dark a color appears.
- 3. Place tea bags onto paper and press down.
- 4. Experiment with different ways to transfer your tea watercolor; pressing, dragging the bag across the paper, drops, etc.
- 5. Try different amounts of water to see what values you can create with your tea watercolor!
- 6. Allow to dry. Once the paper is dry, use a marker crayon or pencil to draw a scene from your daily life on top of your tea watercolor painting!

