

Talking Points: Etel Adnan

Explore this resource to help you talk about the work of painter Etel Adnan.

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AGES 11-14

AGES 14-16

FREE TO ACCESS

Etel Adnan

‘Born in Beirut, Etel Adnan moved to California in the 1950s and built a painting practice inspired by her cross-cultural experiences and spiritual engagement with the natural world. She creates her intimate, small-scale compositions with a palette knife instead of a paint brush, which results in rich, geometric fields of color that evoke sunsets, valleys, and mountains. Mount Tamalpais, a peak in Marin County, California, has been a frequent subject. Adnan studied philosophy at the Sorbonne in Paris and established herself as a poet, academic, and essayist before she began to make art.’ – [Artsy](#)

Questions to Ask Students

In the first video, what similarities & differences did you see between Adnan’s work and the work of Van Gogh?

Choose a painting to show students and ask the following...

What can you see in Adnan’s painting? Describe the

shapes and colours as well as the landscape.

What do you like / dislike about the painting?

What season do you think it was when Adnan painted the landscape?

What was the weather like that day? What makes you think this?

How does the painting make you feel?

Compare and contrast two different paintings by Adnan.

You May Also Like...

Pathway: How can the relationship between time and landscape be captured through painting?



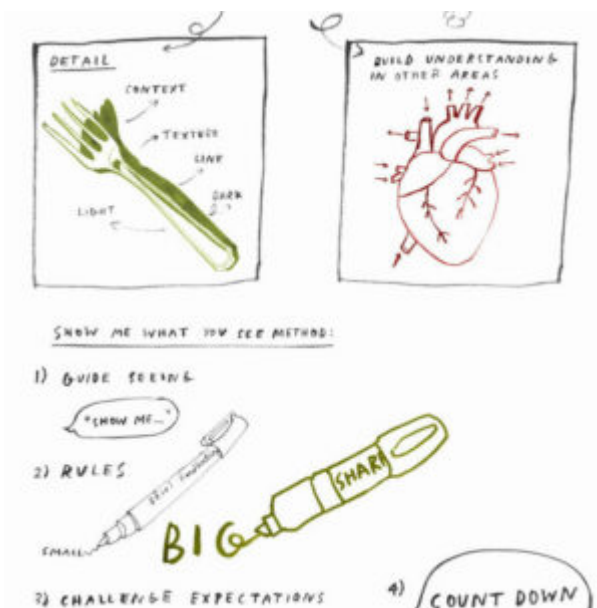
In this pathway aimed at ages 11-16, explore the relationship between landscape and time through paint

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Find out how pupils can respond to artists work in sketchbooks

Show me what you see



Enable close looking and drawing with
this exercise