

ART TECHNIQUE

Painting

AGE GROUP

Appropriate for students 12 -18 years old

CONCEPT

In this art lesson, students will explore the expressive and abstract style of artist Jesse Reno. They will learn about Reno's unique techniques and use them as inspiration to create their own acrylic paintings.

SESSIONS

3 x 60 minute sessions

MATERIALS

- 8.5" x 11" pieces of paper for sketches
- Colored pencils or charcoal
- Chromacryl Acrylic Essentials or Chromacryl Students' Acrylic, assorted colors such as: White, Black Cool Yellow, Warm Yellow, Yellow Oxide, Orange, Cool Red, Warm Red, Magenta, Green Deep, Green Light, Cool Blue, Warm Blue, Cobalt Blue, Violet, etc. Choose from pints, 1/2 gallons or sets as needed for the class.
- 1 pint Chromacryl Painting Medium/ Varnish, per class
- 1 round paint brush per student
- 1 flat paint brush per student
- 18" x 24" surface, or larger, per student canvas, panel or even cardboard
- Standing easels or table easels
- 1 bucket to wash brushes in, per table
- *Optional: Chroma Drawing Inks*
- *Optional: Oil Pastels*

Other Chroma paints, such as A2 Lightfast Heavy Body Acrylic, Chromatemp Artists' Tempera and Chroma 2 Washable Tempera, can be substituted in this lesson.



Contemporary painter Jesse Reno is known for his abstract narrative/ contemporary primitive paintings and process. He has said, "My process is one of trial and error, changing directions, persistence of ideas, and letting intention guide me rather than chasing outcomes." His layered paintings often change radically as new ideas emerge, painting over the parts that no longer work, and following ideas to create a visual diary of "finding treasure"

NATIONAL CORE ART STANDARDS

Creating Anchor Standard 2: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work.

Responding Anchor Standard 7: Perceive and analyze artistic work.



Intention Over Direction

OBJECTIVE

1. Students will study and analyze the artwork of Jesse Reno to understand his unique style and techniques.
2. Students will explore and experiment with acrylic painting techniques inspired by Jesse Reno's artwork.
3. Students will create an original acrylic painting in the style of Jesse Reno, incorporating their own personal narrative.

VISUAL REFERENCES

Visit www.jessereno.com to curate works for inspiration. As a contemporary painter, there are many great artist talks and videos about his process online.

FIRST SESSION

INTRODUCTION/DISCUSSION

Jesse Reno is a contemporary artist known for his expressive and abstract paintings. He was born in 1974 in Fort Dodge, Iowa, and is currently based in Portland, Oregon.

Jesse Reno began his artistic journey in 1996. He started experimenting with various artistic mediums, including drawing, painting, and sculpture. His works are often characterized by their vibrant colors, bold brushwork, and a primitive or tribal aesthetic.

In terms of influences, Jesse Reno draws inspiration from a variety of sources. He has mentioned being influenced by indigenous art, tribal cultures, and shamanic traditions from around the world. His work often reflects a spiritual and introspective exploration of the human condition, incorporating symbols, archetypes, and personal narratives. Reno's art is deeply rooted in his own experiences and emotions, serving as a visual representation of his inner world.

Begin the lesson by showing examples of Jesse Reno's artwork and briefly discussing his unique style and techniques. Talk about how his work often incorporates vibrant colors, expressive brushwork, and symbolic imagery.

Discuss the importance of personal storytelling in art and how Jesse Reno's paintings often convey personal narratives and emotions. Discuss some of his guiding principles as he paints:

- paint until something catches, then follow it
- follow the ideas you want, not what you think you should do
- render fragments of ideas
- it's ok to paint over everything you don't like, so there is more space to imagine something new
- instinct over logic

Introduce the learning objectives and explain that students will be creating their own acrylic paintings inspired by Jesse Reno's contemporary primitive style.

Provide students with a selection of Jesse Reno's paintings and ask them to choose one artwork to analyze. Encourage students to discuss their chosen artwork with a partner or in small groups, focusing on the elements of color, brushwork, and subject matter. Facilitate a class discussion where students share their observations and interpretations of the artwork. Emphasize the idea that art can be open to multiple interpretations and personal connections.

SECOND SESSION

EXPLORE ACRYLIC PAINTING TECHNIQUES

Demonstrate various acrylic painting techniques inspired by Jesse Reno's style. These may include:

- Layering and overpainting
- Wet-on-wet blending



the-planets-all-watched-as-taurus-rose
 by Jesse Reno • www.jessereno.com



The development of a painting...



Intention Over Direction

- Sgraffito (scratching into wet paint)
- Splattering and drips
- Bold brushwork and mark-making
- Using color for contrast

Provide students with practice sheets or small canvases/paper to experiment with these techniques. Allow them to freely explore and create their own unique effects using acrylic paints. Have students brainstorm and sketch out a personal narrative or theme they would like to incorporate into their painting using colored pencils or charcoal. Although Reno likes to approach his paintings without a theme, when working with limited time, it is helpful to have an idea for the start of the next session.

Gesso the surfaces prior to painting.

THIRD SESSION

Using Chromacryl Acrylic Essentials or Chromacryl Students' Acrylic begin by putting down strokes and areas of color in various places on the surface. Paint the initial idea from the last session. Encourage students to think about emotions, memories, or experiences they would like to express visually. Remind students to consider how they can use color, composition, and brushwork to communicate their narrative effectively.

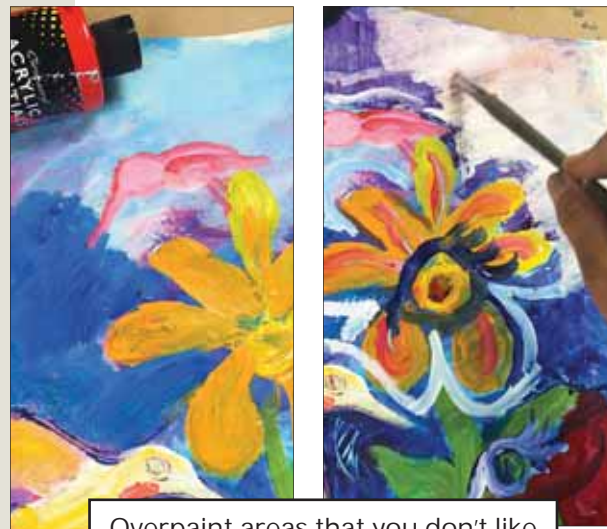
As ideas arise during the painting, remind students to follow them. It is perfectly ok (and encouraged) to overpaint some areas you do not like to make the room to paint something new. Allow some of the under layers to show by overpainting with transparent colors like Yellows, or White mixed with Chromacryl Painting Medium to make a glaze. Show the under layer by scratching into it. When in doubt, outline some of the narrative elements with bold color. Use Chromacryl Drawing Ink to create fluid drips, lines, and detail to enhance and further the story they are creating.

FOURTH SESSION

Finish the painting by adding selective detail to key areas. Because acrylics naturally dry darker, rebuild the lightest lights and adjust any areas that have "sunk" in value. (Students can compensate for this value shift by mixing light colors a step or step and a half lighter in value.)

REFLECTION

Set up a gallery-style display of the completed paintings. Give each student an opportunity to present their artwork to the class, explaining their personal narrative and the techniques they used. Facilitate a class discussion where students can share their reflections on the process, challenges faced, and successes achieved. Discuss how their artworks relate to the style of Jesse Reno and their own personal expression.



Overpaint areas that you don't like



Follow ideas that come up while painting



Add selective detail

EXTENSIONS AND DIFFERENTIATION:

- Advanced students can be challenged to incorporate additional acrylic painting techniques, such as glazing or impasto.
- Students with limited art experience can be provided with stencils or pre-drawn templates to help them focus on experimenting with techniques and personal expression.
- Collaborative projects can be introduced, where students work in pairs or small groups to create a larger artwork inspired by Jesse Reno's style.

GRADING RUBRIC

- Creativity and Originality: Did the student demonstrate originality in their painting and incorporate personal storytelling? (20 points)
- Technique and Skill: Did the student effectively apply the acrylic painting techniques learned? (20 points)
- Composition and Design: Is the composition well-balanced and visually engaging? Did the student effectively use color, brushwork, and mark-making? (20 points)
- Presentation and Communication: Did the student effectively present their artwork and clearly explain their personal narrative and techniques used? (10 points)
- Effort and Engagement: Did the student actively participate in all aspects of the lesson, including exploration, planning, and creating the artwork? (10 points)
- Craftsmanship: Did the student demonstrate care and attention to detail in the execution of their painting? (10 points)
- Neatness and Cleanliness: Did the student maintain a clean workspace and properly handle the materials? (10 points)



Birds of Paradise



CHROMA PAINTS AT A GLANCE

The below chart can help you determine which paints will suit the classroom purposes best. While most of Chroma's Educational lines could be used at any grade level for a variety of projects, particular Chroma brands will meet students' growing skills and provide richer, more sophisticated painting experiences.

Product	Color Range	Acrylic	Tempera	Watercolor	Heavy Body Consistency	Medium Body Consistency	Lightfast	Washable	Indoor/Outdoor	Best for Elementary	Best for Middle School	Best for High School	Canvas	Paper	Canvas Board	Wood	Murals/Sets	General Crafts	Paper Maché	Printmaking
A2 Lightfast Heavy Body Acrylic	40	X			X		X					X	X	X	X	X				
Chromacryl Students' Acrylics	37	X				X					X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Chromacryl Acrylic Essentials	20	X				X				X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Chromacryl Fluid Acrylic	16	X									X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Chroma Drawing Ink	12	X					X				X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X
Chroma Mural Paint	37	X				X	X		X			X					X			
Chroma Mural Paint Markers	25	X				X	X		X			X					X			
Molten Metals Metallic Acrylics	10	X				X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X
Chroma 2 Intense & Opaque Heavy Bodied Washable Tempera	14		X		X			X		X	X	X		X				X	X	X
Chromatemp Artists' Tempera	32		X		X					X	X			X				X	X	X
Chroma Glitter Paint	12		X			X		X		X				X				X	X	X
Chroma Liquid Washable Watercolor	15			X				X		X	X			X						X

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