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Art Education Resources that **Engage, Inform & Inspire**

White Gouache and India Ink Resist Technique

Subject(s): Visual Art & Social Studies
Medium(s): Gouache
Brand(s): Talens Art Creation

Talens Art Creation Gouache is an opaque paint that is thinned with water, with which you can paint matt sections without leaving stripes. Because this paint dries within several minutes, it is highly practical to use. The paint can be used on many grounds, such as paper and wood. Gouache is known for its color intensity.

Gouache came into use about in the 16th century, artists applied oil paint over tempera to achieve a matt finish. It was used in the 18th century for add detail to pastel paintings.

Well known artists who used Gouache were Edward Hopper and Matisse who used it to color the paper cutouts the Blue Nude series made in 1952. Other Modern pioneers of Gouache include Paul Klee.

Project Outline

Using White Talens Art Creations Gouache and Charcoal to resist India ink on watercolor paper. Creating a positive high contrast monochromatic image that can be worked back into using watercolor to add color and detail.

Gouache is infinitely water soluble and will dissolve lifting the permanent India ink from the areas of the paper where the gouache is applied. Charcoal will also provide a similar lift with texture. The technique encourages students to contemplate negative and positive space in their design. The technique teaches process and compels the student to deal with a degree of unpredictability in the outcome.
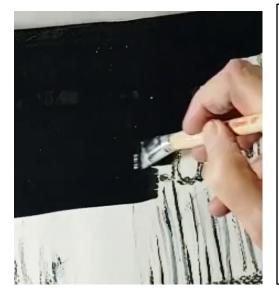
Materials

- Talens Art Creations (TAC) Gouache
- Talens Art Creations (TAC) Watercolors
- India Ink
- Pallett or mixing dish
- Synthetic Watercolor Brushes
- TAC Watercolor Paper
- HB graphite pencil
- Water Container(s)
- Paper Towels
- Dip pen (optional)

Set Up

- Students will need access to running water. This can be a faucet or a bucket and a jug.
- Cover table if needed.
- Lay out paint, brushes, palette or mixing dish, watercolor paper.
- Have plenty of water containers for brush cleaning and paper towels for cleanup.
- Make enough room for individuals to work side by side, sitting or standing.
- Have a trash can available with easy access.

- Sketch your design onto the watercolor paper lightly with a graphite pencil.

- Using your brush mix some Talens Art Creation white Gouache in a pallet with clean water. It should be a creamy consistency.

- Paint the white Gouache in-between the pencil lines leaving a gap. The wider the gap the blacker your design will be. You can also sketch with some charcoal to ad texture. Both the charcoal and the white Gouache will wash away acting as the resist.

- Leave the piece to dry then paint the entire sheet covering over your design with the India Ink. Leave the ink to dry completely, it must be absolutely dry for the next step.

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- Now that the ink is completely dry, rinse it under the facet with cool water. The water will dislodge the India ink where there's gouache or charcoal underneath. This leaves black areas where the ink touches the paper. The India ink is permanent in these areas

- Once the paper is dry, paint over the piece with transparent watercolors

- Finally add highlights and detail with Talens Art Creation opaque Gouache. A dip pen was used in this example.

Tips

- Only use a paper that can withstand submersion in water. Such as a watercolor paper.

- Try different brushes to create a variety on texture and strokes.

- Scribe back into the white Gouache when it is still wet using the handle of the brush or clay tool for additional mark making options.

National Standards for Art Education

Anchor Standard #2. Refine and complete artistic work.

Grade 3 VA:Cr1.13 Elaborate on an imaginative idea.

Grade 7 VA:Cr1.1.7 Apply methods to overcome creative blocks.

Grade 5 VA:Cr2.1.5a Experiment and develop skills in multiple art-making techniques and approaches through practice.