



Rose Wylie is a contemporary painter who lives in Kent, UK. Her first solo show in the US is now on view at the Aspen Art Museum: aspenartmuseum.org.

Using large, unstretched canvases, Wylie creates lively scenes—inspired by films, books, pop culture, sports, and newspapers—entirely from memory. And with a style that has been described as “unapologetic” and “unruly,” she makes paintings full of texture, color, and mistakes!

If something goes wrong, she’ll happily just cut it out and patch over the canvas. “You do a bit and it’s horrible,” she explains, “And you take it off and try it again.”



Yellow Strip, 2006. Oil on canvas in five parts, 72 x 305 7/8 in (183 x 777 cm). Private Collection. Courtesy the artist and David Zwirner

Create Your Own Original Sequence

“Sequencing” refers to not only the components of a story (beginning, middle, and end) but also the ability to retell events in the order in which they occurred. Sequencing skills are helpful when creating a storyboard or a comic strip. Spend some time looking at Wylie’s artwork at the top of the page.

Now, here’s what you’ll need to create your own sequence:

- Several pieces of white drawing paper
- Pencils, colored pencils, markers, or crayons
- Sharpie marker

Step 1: Think about your favorite character from a book, film, magazine, video game, or a specific sport, or it could even be a family member! Look through newspapers, too, for images and ideas (like the artist does).

Step 2: Warm-up. On a smaller piece of paper, sketch the character you’ve selected from your memory. Don’t worry about making it look “perfect” or “real.” There is no wrong way to draw—only your way!

Hint: Try creating a contour drawing of your character (“contour” is a French word meaning “outline”). By using just a line, you can still capture the life, action, or expression of your subject.

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Admission to the AAM is FREE courtesy of Amy and John PheLAN

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Step 3: Now think about a sequence for your character with a before, middle, and after. For example, an idea for a basketball hero sequence might be:

1. They leap into the air.
2. They shoot the ball.
3. But they miss the basket!

Or, here’s another one:

1. A fuzzy spider might spin a web from its spot on the ceiling.
2. It lowers itself down.
3. It lands in a person’s bowl of cereal!

Step 4: Using a sharpie, draw your sequence (before, middle, after) in the frames. Don’t worry if you make a mistake. You can find a creative fix. Add details and text if you like.

Step 5: To finish, color your sequence.

Step 6: Share your artwork with a friend or family member!

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Front: *Yellow Strip*, 2006. Oil on canvas in five parts, 72 x 305 7/8 in (183 x 777 cm). Private Collection. Courtesy the artist and David Zwirner