Activity Guide

Agnes Martin

This activity guide is a resource for visitors of all ages to explore the work of Agnes Martin. Spend time looking and let these questions and activities help provide different ways to connect with what you see.

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Explore the drawings and paintings of Agnes Martin, installed in Gallery 6 of the Aspen Art Museum

About the artist

Agnes Martin (1912–2004) was born in Saskatchewan, Canada, and came to the United States when she was twenty years old. She lived and worked in New York City alongside many important Abstract-Expressionist and Minimalist painters before moving to Taos, New Mexico, where she spent more time focusing on her writing.

About the exhibition

The exhibition at the Aspen Art Museum, spanning over forty years of her career, demonstrates her light, minimalist use of color, line, and shape. Her works explore truth, beauty, and knowledge, and have influenced generations of artists that followed her.

Agnes Martin liked to use lines in her work. Look around the gallery—what kind of lines can you see?

Write your answers in the spaces below!

Curved Short dashes Straight

Agnes Martin considered her artwork to be concerned with experiencing deeper feelings and abstract emotions.

Pick one painting or drawing that you are especially interested in.

Look at the work from far away, and then close up to discover details.

Stand quietly with the artwork and see what feelings or experiences emerge.

Does your mind wander?
Do you imagine sounds, smells,
or textures?
What are you reminded of?

After you have spent time looking closely at one work of art, what can you remember by drawing it?

Find somewhere to sit outside the gallery and sketch the artwork in the space below, paying close attention to the types of lines you create:

Most of the artworks in this exhibition are untitled. This gives you the freedom to contemplate the forms and colors as they are, and to make your own personal associations.

What does it mean to you for a work to have no title?