

with the Art Gallery of New South Wales Striking shapes and silhouettes

Art Gallery NSW

Do you love to draw, paint and make things?



Artists love to create.

They make drawings, prints, paintings, sculptures and other things for us to look at. Some artists love to experiment with shapes, outlines and colours to express a mood or to show the different effects they have when placed together.

Look at these artworks from the Art Gallery of New South Wales, become an artist and create your own colourful collage.





left and cover (detail): John Coburn Kuringai 1977, oil on canvas. Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased 1977 © Estate of John Coburn: below, left to right: Awazu Kiyoshi March - flowering cherry from the series **Fantasies on Japanese** playing cards (set No 1) 1979, colour woodcut, Art Gallery of New South Wales, Yasuko Myer Bequest Fund 1998 © Estate of Kiyoshi Awazu; Sydney Ball Shiraz journey from the Persian series 1967, colour screenprint on white paper, Art Gallery of New South Wales, gift of the artist 2011 © Sydney Ball. Courtesy the estate of Sydney Ball and Sullivan+Strumpf, Sydney; right: Japan Uii bridge under the willows 1600s, pair of six-panel screens (byobu), ink, colour gold leaf on paper, lacquer frames with metal fittings, Art Gallery of New South Wales, purchased 2005. Photos: © AGNSW

We acknowledge the Gadigal of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of the Country on which the Art Gallery of New South Wales stands.





Striking shapes and silhouettes

You will need: Scissors Glue Pencil Coloured papers Your imagination! Artists like to challenge
the way we see the
world around us,
encouraging us to see
everyday things in new
ways. Some use organic
shapes, vivid colours
and strong silhouettes
to create patterns and
striking compositions or
arrangements.

Make your own colourful collage influenced by the striking shapes and silhouettes in these artworks.

Remember, you are the artist so you can decide on the colours, the shapes and what your artwork will look like.

1

Take some of the pieces of paper from your box and start laying them out in front of you. Decide what colours look good together and how you might cut them into shapes and silhouettes.



2

Start cutting the paper to make your arrangement. Move the shapes around until you like how it looks. Tip: if you fold the paper in half you can create a symmetrical shape. You could also use a hole puncher to create patterns along the edge.



3

Tip: fold a piece of paper several times before cutting a shape, so you get several identical shapes.



4

You can also experiment with ripping the paper instead of cutting it. Or you can cut through shapes and spread them out, or overlap a dark colour with a light colour.



5

Keep adding different shapes and different types of paper to build up your design. Remember that the leftover pieces when you cut out your shape can also be useful.



6

Finish off your design by adding smaller shapes, then glue everything down when you are happy with your final arrangement. The possibilities are endless!

