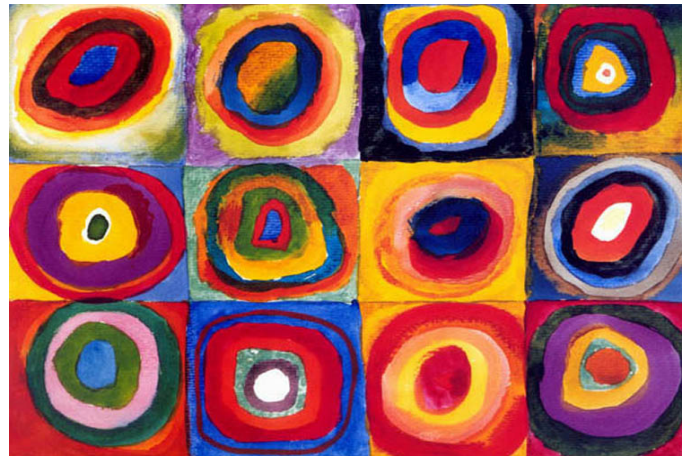


to go! Wassily Kandinsky

Wassily Kandinsky was born in Moscow, Russia. He studied law and economics before moving to Germany at the age of 30 to pursue a career in painting.

Kandinsky's early paintings are realistic, meaning that when he painted a person, it looked like person. Later in his painting career he moved to a style of abstraction. This means that he began to paint abstract pictures that didn't look like real things. He began painting with lots of color, lines and shapes. Kandinsky was good at creating paintings that looked realistic, but he liked painting abstract pictures better.

Kandinsky was also very interested in color. In his color study, Squares with Concentric Circles, Kandinsky experimented with color by drawing circles of different colors in order to see how the colors interacted with each other. Can you see which circles look the brightest? Which ones look dark? Which circles do you like best? Why?



Squares with Concentric Circles, 1913

Materials:

- Construction paper (assorted colors), Scissors, Glue or Glue Stick and a Ruler

Directions:

- Start with one full-size sheet of construction paper. This is going to be your base.
- Cut out 6 squares that each measure 4 inches by 4 inches. Make sure to use different colors.
- Glue your squares onto the paper so that they form a grid that completely covers your base paper.
- With the remaining construction paper, cut out circles of different sizes. Don't worry if your circles aren't perfect, neither were Kandinsky's! We're more interested in color here, than shapes.
- Lay your circles on top of the squares. Place the bigger ones underneath the smaller ones. Each square should have 3 to 4 circles on it. Then, glue all your circles down.
- Notice how the different colors look next to each other. Do some squares appear brighter?
- Congratulations! You've just completed your very own color study in the style of Wassily Kandinsky!



Student Example