



Joan Mitchell, *Cous-cous*, 1961-1962, oil on canvas, 78 3/4 in. x 119 3/4 in., Gift of Sam and May Gruber

Joan Mitchell is one of the few women painters to be embraced as an Abstract Expressionist, a group largely dominated by men. *Cous-Cous* incorporates many Abstract Expressionist painting techniques, including drips, spattering, and heavy impasto applied with both a brush and palette knife.

How would you describe this painting to a friend?

For more information about this artwork click [here](#).

**Activity:** Drip Painting

**Materials:**

- Paper cups
- string
- Liquid paint (or watered-down food coloring)
- Paint, heavier than photocopy paper is best

**Directions:**

1. Create a holder for your paint bucket. You can use cardboard tubes, string, a banana holder – really whatever items you can find around your house to build with. Building this holder for your paint is half the fun of the project so take your time, be creative and experiment!
2. Poke a hole in one cup using a ball point pen
3. Hang that cup from your paint bucket holder
4. Place paper under the cup.
5. Pour a type of liquid paint into the cup and let it drip through onto your paper, creating fun shapes and patterns
6. Repeat with more paint colors in new cups

**Tips:**

- Experiment with adding water to the paint, blending colors, and moving your paper around to catch the drips.

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