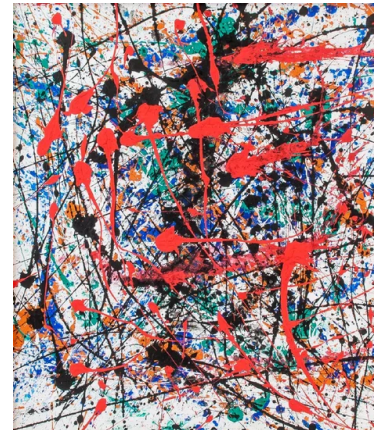




JACKSON POLLOCK

(1912-1956)



Jackson Pollock was an American painter known for being a major figure in the Abstract Expressionist movement. He is most known for his technique of throwing, splashing, and pouring paint onto canvases laying horizontal on the floor known as the "drip technique." His form of painting was also called "action painting" because he used the force of his whole body to throw paint at his canvas. He would move very quickly across the painting, dribbling paint in long, wobbly lines as well as throwing the paint and using different tools to create different designs. Some of his paintings even have footprints on them from where he walked across it during his frenzied painting!

The abstract expressionists were a group of young New York artists who made paintings that were non-representational, meaning they didn't look like anything. Instead they tried to show emotions, like happiness or anger, in the expressive marks that they made in their drawings, paintings and sculptures.

The abstract expressionists were also influenced by a type of surrealist art called *automatism*. So, what is automatism? If you use automatism to make art, you don't plan what you will draw or paint, but use chance and accident to make your picture. For example - Get a piece of paper and a pencil. Put your pencil on the paper. Then close your eyes and let your pencil draw all over the paper. Now open your eyes. You have just made your first piece of automatism!

This extreme form of abstraction had many of his critics torn, but nonetheless, Jackson Pollock became one of the most notable artists of the 20th century!

PAINT LIKE POLLOCK!

Pollock was talented, but also incredibly messy! For this project, we encourage you to let loose! Head outside to a space that can get messy, gather various paints and tools/items, and let your creativity soar! Throw, splash, dribble, dance the paint onto the canvas! This form of art is pure expression and the end result will be amazing! Art is meant to be expressive, bold, inspiring, and a representation of the artist -- Let go and have fun!