

## Lesson 2 Spark Your Creativity

### Art That Makes Us Smile

How do we open ourselves up to new possibilities?

One of the ways to do this is to connect things that look separate. This can be incredibly pleasing as it helps us to see the world in a different light and gain a greater appreciation for the interrelation of all things. Here are three artists who are willing to experiment with this approach.

### Beyond the Scene

Meet Robin Yayla, a visual storyteller living in Milan, Italy, who has been delighting his viewers with his unique artworks on social media. He draws illustrations on top of photos of landmarks or buildings and offers whole new ways to see them. To breathe life into well-known structures around the world, he often uses iconic pop culture characters. His unique twists sometimes turn what we consider dull and boring into something delightful. To him, a bridge is a net, and a road is a bowling lane. After finding whatever is common in two unrelated things, he connects them smoothly in his digital drawing. His work combines his passion for traveling and drawing. Exploring new places and learning about new cultures inspire his artistic mind to come up with new ideas for his art. Many of his digital illustrations transform the most historic buildings of the world into new objects that you would like to see again. For example, he added images of ice cream cones onto the scenic photo of St. Basil's Cathedral in Moscow, the capital of Russia. The Leaning Tower of Pisa, one of the most remarkable architectural structures in Italy, appeared to be a camera lens to him.

## Surprising Connection

Paintings of Rob Gonsalves, a Canadian magic realist artist, combine two different points of view. They give the viewer the visual illusion that they are looking at two unrelated realities flawlessly fused in one painting. They usually depict landscapes and objects that seem to change from one thing to another.

When you look at the top right corner of the painting above, you can see a kid jumping on his bed. However, as you move your eyes across, the bedcovers change into fields, which a girl now appears to be flying over. This is how the visual illusion is created: an object is gradually changed through a series of similar shapes into something entirely different in a single scene. At the same time, two different parts of the same scene are constructed at different scales. The result is an unexpected and seemingly impossible whole.

This kind of illusion has a fun way of twisting your perception. It makes you question what is real. Most of his incredible paintings have an unclear boundary between the multiple stories they tell, which forces the viewer to jump back and forth between them. Tracing the transitions, you get that delightful "Ah-ha!" feeling as you try to decide exactly where one world transforms into another.

## Fun Shadows

When we look at shadows of objects in real life, most of us think nothing of them. Belgian artist and film-maker Vincent Bal, however, turns them into art forms. He lets his creativity flow to make beautiful and meaningful scenes with shadows.

His playful shadow art illustrations are made by adding his own doodles to shadows cast from everyday objects, like a flower or a glass. In one image, the shadow from a key is reinterpreted as a DJ wearing headphones. In another, a potato peeler creates the perfectly shaped frame for a piano. In his art, the shadow from a glass becomes a pool.

He uses a very simple process to draw his pictures. To start the process, all he needs to do is prepare a plain object, a piece of paper, and a light. Then he puts the object on the paper and turns on the light. He just starts moving the light around and places the object in different positions. He keeps a very open mind and tries not to have an idea in advance about what the result should be.

"If I try to shape a shadow into a certain form, it always feels a bit forced. If nothing comes, I take another object, and then I just start playing around with it until suddenly I see something. In this way, I can create whatever I want," he says. His free artistic interpretation of shadows means that the possibilities for creating new doodles are endless.

In fact, it was by accident that he started making his art pieces. While he was working on a new script, he suddenly noticed how the shadow of a cup on his desk looked like a little elephant. He completed the image with a few lines, took a picture and shared it on the Internet. The reactions were so positive that he challenged himself to make one shadow image every day.

Art can inspire you to see the world from a new angle. Connecting ideas that at first glance appear unrelated is a powerful tool for exploring the beauty of the world around us. To make such connections, all you need is your imaginative power.

## 2과 Read Further

**Marvelous Book Sculptures:****Not Reading Books but Looking at Them**

- Su Blackwell

I became a book artist almost by accident. After graduating in 2003, I traveled to Thailand. At that time, I didn't think about working with books. Shopping in Bangkok, I came across a used book with beautiful notes written in it. That got me interested in the way paper was used in art. Soon after I returned to the UK, my father passed away. Feeling sad, I found myself picking up the Graham Greene classic I had brought back from my trip and cutting paper moths out of the pages. I then hung them over the open book. Since then, I have created sculptures out of books.

I always read the story first to get inspiration, and everything for the sculpture is made from the pages within that book; some don't have illustrations, so I take inspiration from the title and the text. I am also drawn toward fairy tales, especially Hans Christian Andersen's; his tales are quite magical, but there's also a sadness as they don't always have a happy ending.

For me, books are not only sources of ideas and associations, but also objects of great beauty to be cut up and rearranged. I use very simple tools: a sharp knife, a bit of glue, and some wire. Utilizing the open book as my base, I cut its pages, glue them, gently pull them up, and support them with wire. Through these processes, I construct physical representations of the narratives and the characters.