

## LESSON PLAN: Architecture in Art

By Wendy Ping, April 2015

Look at buildings to study perspective and create a watercolor village.



### Key Ideas/Questions:

- Differentiate between atmospheric and linear perspective.
- How do artists create the illusion of space/depth?
- Locate the horizon and vanishing point on a variety of works of art.

### Objectives:

Students will go on an instructor led tour in which they will be introduced to several examples of architecture in art. They will be able to discuss similarities and differences of these examples. They will also gain knowledge of linear and atmospheric perspective within a space.

Students will return to the classroom to observe an example of how to use line, shape, value, color and texture to create a watercolor village in perspective.

The instructor will demonstrate techniques with the watercolor medium: wet into wet, using salt on wet paint, scratching into a wet surface, using crayon for wax resist, dry brush, and lifting color from the surface with paper towels, etc.

Students will create their own watercolor painting.

Students will reflect and share their work with others.

### Vocabulary:

Architecture-the design of building and spaces

Perspective-drawing the illusion of height, depth and width

Linear perspective-parallel lines that appear to converge as they approach a vanishing point on the horizon

Atmospheric perspective-colors become dull as they recede into space

Vanishing point-point on the picture plane that is far enough away that the eye can no longer detect an object

Orthogonal Line-lines that recede to the vanishing point

Horizon-line where earth and sky converge or eye level in an interior space

### Materials:

watercolor paper

watercolor sets

bowls for water

paper towels

brushes

pencils

optional: mat for framing

foam blocks for building model structures

Show InSight video for Roger Shimomura's *American Infamy*

rulers

crayons

oil pastels

masking tape to secure wet paper flat on the table

### Assessment:

Review objectives and art form the museum tour. Reflect and share work with others.

### Tour artwork images:



**Kyu Sung Woo Architects, Inc.** (Cambridge, Massachusetts)  
Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2007  
Limestone, glass, granite



**Angelina Gualdoni** (American, b. 1975)  
*Slating in Suspension, 2007*  
Oil and acrylic on canvas  
Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2007.50



**Dan Attoe** (American, b. 1975)

*Mountain Fair*, 2012

Oil on paper

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2012.24

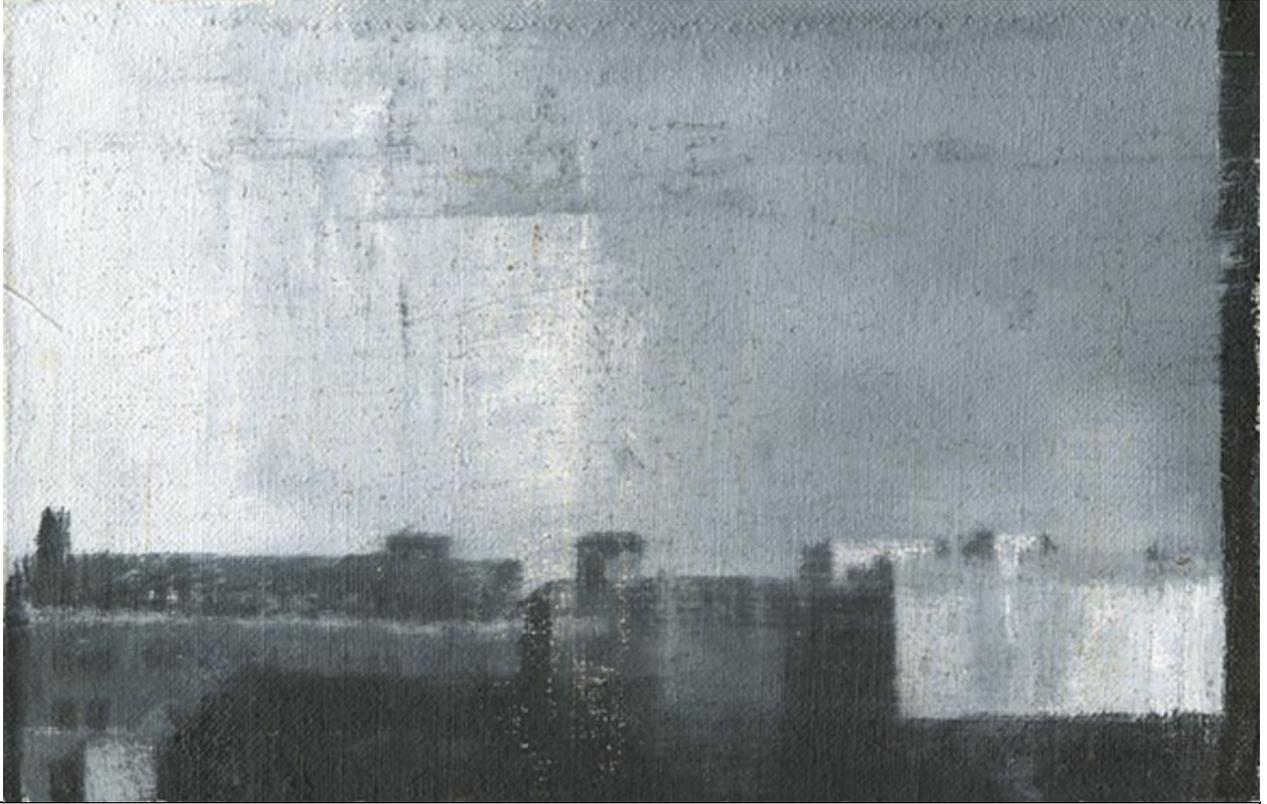


**Kim Dorland** (Canadian, b. 1974)

*Untitled*, 2008

Watercolor on paper

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2010.13



**John Ferry** (American, b. 1969)

*West Bottoms, Kansas City, 2007*

Oil on canvas

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2007.64



**Doug Osa** (American, b. 1952)

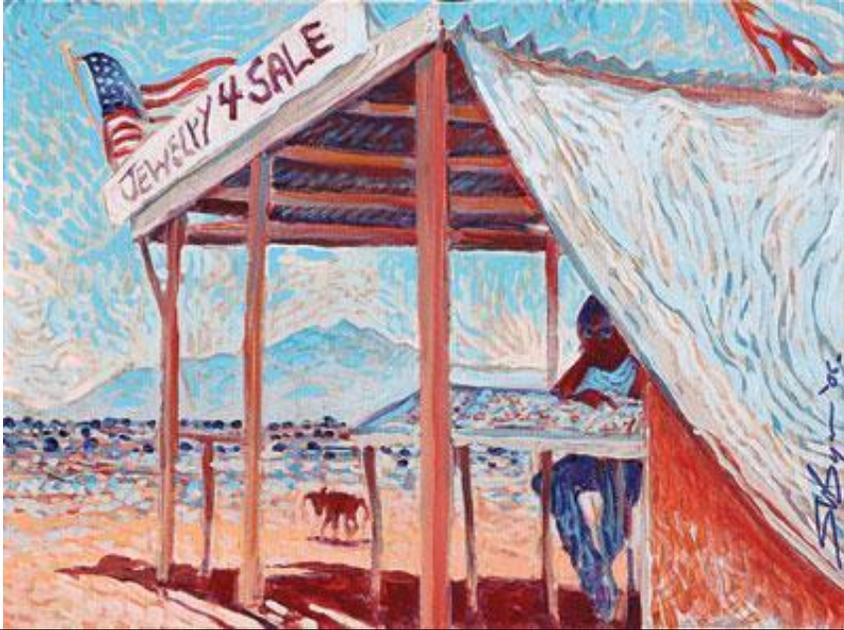
*Fadco Storage*, 2004

Oil on linen

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2004.20



**Ricky Allman** (American, b. 1978)  
*We Will Never Feel the Same*, 2008  
Acrylic, ink on panel  
Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2009.22



**Shonto Begay** (American Indian, Navajo, b. 1954)

*Jewelry 4 Sale*, 2006

Acrylic on canvas

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2007.87