

Art A Day CHALLENGE: Romantic Renderings

Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

We challenge you to an art activity each day during school closures! If you decide to complete this challenge, share it with us in the comments and on Instagram @WCMFA and use the hashtag #ARTaDayCHALLENGE. The order you complete the challenges is up to you!

Stuff you'll need: Materials are up to you! Read through the challenge and make your decision based on your idea! ALL ART MEDIUMS WELCOME: cellphone cameras, pencil, paper, clipboards, erasers, paint, etc!

Words you need to know:

Romantic Art: An artistic and intellectual movement originating in Europe in the late 1700s and characterized by a heightened interest in nature, emphasis on the individual's expression of emotion and imagination, departure from the attitudes and forms of classicism, and rebellion against established social rules. Romantic art focused on emotions, feelings, and moods of all kinds including **spirituality**, **imagination**, mystery, and **fervor**. The subject matter varied widely including landscapes, **religion**, revolution, and peaceful beauty (www.Ducksters.com).

LOOK at this painting of a garden scene by French artists, Adolphe-Joseph-Thomas Moticelli. It is a little hard to understand what you are looking at right away. That's because of the brush strokes and heavy textures the artists creates using thick paint. The artists creates layers of paint with the brightest layers on top. When you are a really close to the painting your eyes may only see colors but when you stand back a little, it is easier to see the garden scene which includes a group of people, a horse, and a dog. One lady is holding a mirror. This mirror could be a symbol of vanity and that the group of people in the painting were dreamers and didn't follow through with ideas they talked about together. Adolphe-Joseph-Thomas Moticelli was a **Romantic** and he was more interested in using his imagination and didn't care too much about using natural light.



Adolphe-Joseph-Thomas Moticelli
French (1824-1886)
Garden Scene, ca. 1866-76
Oil on panel

MAKE: Make your own **Romantic** art! Use your imagination. Create a party scene that sets a mood, tells a story, and uses your imagination. Maybe you will add a symbol to represent the kind of people that you create (like Monticelli did by adding a mirror). Read about **Romantic** art in the **Words to Know** to spark your inspiration even more. Consider using thick broad brush strokes or dashes with crayons/markers to achieve the same illusion as Monticelli (a technique that even inspired Vincent Van Gogh)!

Writing Prompt Extension: Write about this party you've created. Create character development notes for each character! If you included a symbol, explain the meaning to the viewers and readers as well.