

Poetry Inspirations with Abstract Art

Upriver from Lumberville Walking Bridge II, ca. 1981, Alan Goldstein

Perhaps this painting doesn't look like any other artwork you've seen before – and that's the point! The term **abstract** art is a style of art that may be inspired by real life objects but does not represent them in a realistic way. Just as the artist was inspired by an object to create a painting, so can the viewer be inspired by the artwork to create a poem. Below is an example of a Sensory Poem. It was based off the painting *Upriver From Lumberville Walking Bridge II* by Alan Goldstein ca. 1981.



Alan Goldstein, *Upriver From Lumberville Walking Bridge II*, ca. 1981, Oil on canvas, w.96.5 x h.65 inches, James A. Michener Art Museum. Museum purchase funded by Anne and Joseph Gardocki.

Walking Bridge

Feel the cool fall air against my cheek
 See the brightly colored leaves peeking through the haze
 Hear the water as it flows across the rocks
 Smell the earthy leaves as they start to decompose
 Taste the mist from the fog as it rolls in

(See other side...)

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Activity:

Now it is your turn! Create your own sensory poem based on another work of art.

Title of Artwork: _____

Feel _____

See _____

Hear _____

Smell _____

Taste _____

Abstract Art Hunt:

After you complete your sensory poem, explore the rest of the Museum to see how many more abstract artworks you can find. Pick one to compare to the one you wrote about above. How is it similar? Different? Write about it below.