

# Alexej von Jawlensky

*Abstract Head: Inner Vision and Meditation*

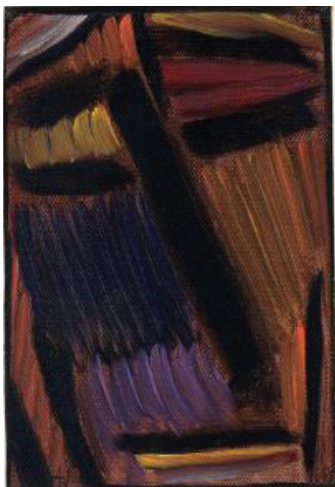
## About the artist!



1.

Alexej von Jawlensky (1864-1941) was an artist who spent many years creating abstract portraits. A portrait is a work of art that shows a person. When a portrait is abstract, it means that it is not realistic. Instead, the artist uses shapes, lines, or colors to make the artwork look different than real-life. In *Abstract Head: Inner Vision* and *Meditation*, Jawlensky used lots of shapes to create the person's face.

Jawlensky was also very particular when he chose the colors used in his paintings. He believed that the colors were important to show the mood and feelings of a work of art.



2.

What shapes can you find in the artworks?

How do you think Jawlensky felt when he created the painting *Abstract Head: Inner Vision*?

How are the colors different from the ones used in *Meditation*?

## Now It's your Turn!

### Materials:

- Magazines, books, or photo albums
- Crayons, markers, paints, or colored pencils
- Drawing paper

### Directions:



Abstract Portrait, 3rd grade student  
San Diego, CA

Find a realistic portrait in a magazine, book, or photo album. Now change this realistic portrait into an abstract one. Using markers, paints, or color pencils, create an abstract portrait only using shapes. Choose colors that show the mood of the person in your portrait.