An Inspiring Idea
REFLECTION

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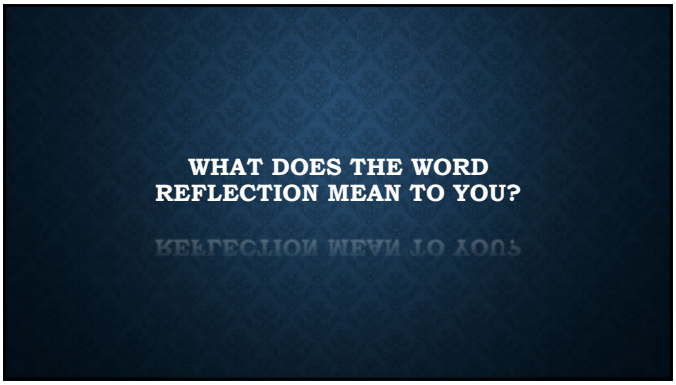
WHAT DOES THE WORD REFLECTION MEAN TO YOU?

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Is a reflection what you see when looking in a mirror?

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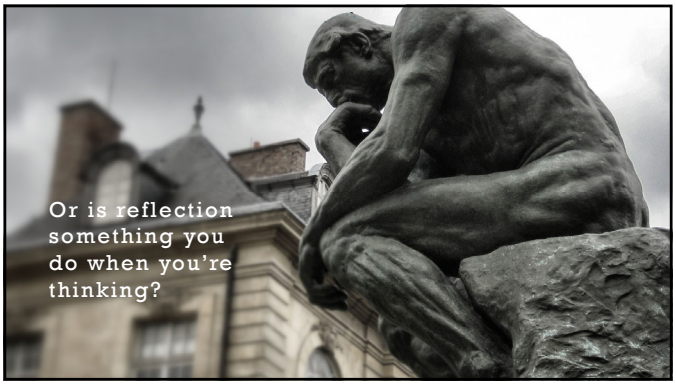
Or is reflection something you do when you're thinking?

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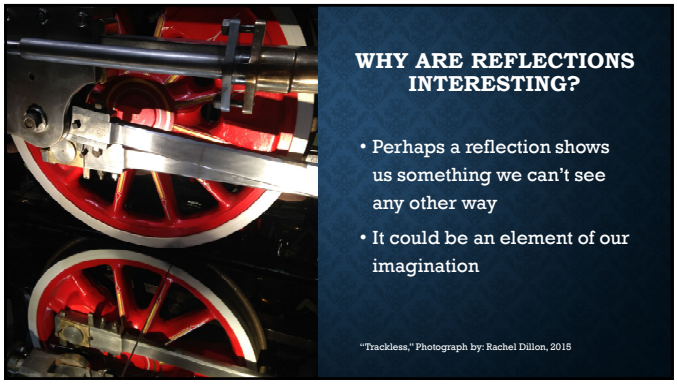

WHY ARE REFLECTIONS INTERESTING?
• Perhaps a reflection shows us something we can't see any other way
• It could be an element of our imagination
"Trackless," Photograph by: Rachel Dillon, 2015

5

WHY ARE REFLECTIONS INTERESTING?
• A reflection is the softer side of something more firm and solid.
• A reflection isn't something you can touch or change unless you alter the real thing.

6

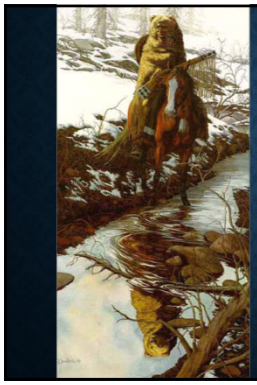
**ARTISTS INSPIRED**

7

The lights are soft in the water, while the shoreline is painted with firmer lines.

"Starry Night over the Rhone," 1888 Oil Paint – Vincent Van Gogh

8



What does Bev Doolittle do with the reflection of this man in the river?

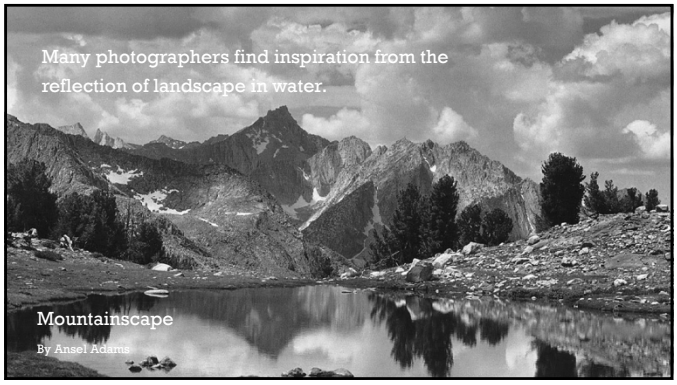
"Spirit of the Grizzly" 1985 Watercolor – Bev Doolittle

9

An artist can use their imagination and cast a reflection different than the source.

"Let my Spirit Soar" 1984 Watercolor - Bev Doolittle

10



Many photographers find inspiration from the reflection of landscape in water.

Mountainscape

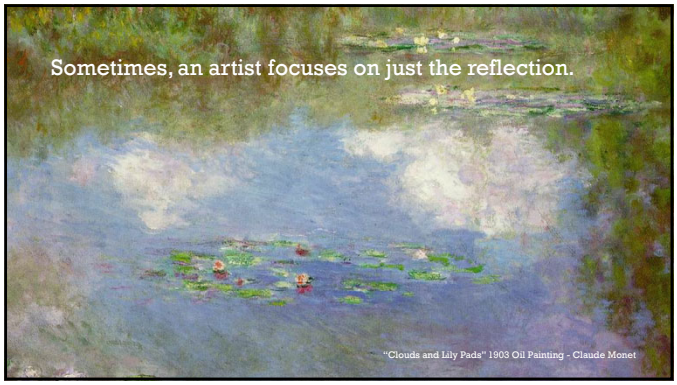
By Ansel Adams

11

"Camp Forestia" 1996 Oil Painting - Peter Doig

There is a feeling of balance when an object is flipped and repeated. It creates a circular effect for your eyes to explore the entirety of a composition.

12




13

14

## ART PROJECT

15

## ART FUNDAMENTALS COVERED:

1. Multiple mediums to convey hard lines and soft lines
2. Above the horizon line the image will be colored with crayon/colored pencils
3. Below the horizon line the image will be colored with watercolor to demonstrate less details
4. Direct draw of the tree landscape
5. Drawing a reversed image
6. Horizon line

Photograph by Bessi

16

## GRAB YOUR SUPPLIES

- 8.5" x 11" watercolor paper
- Crayons & colored pencils
- Pencil
- Dry watercolor palettes or possibly liquid watercolors
- Paintbrush
- Water cup
- Paper towels
- Scrap paper to place beneath artwork

17

## PART ONE

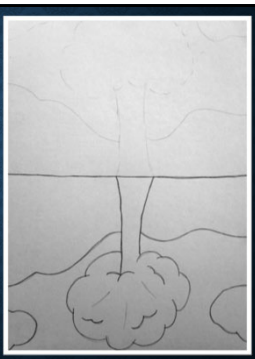
1. Draw the horizon line
2. Draw the tree sitting on the edge of a lake
3. Split the background behind the tree in segments. The example shows a hill, sky, and clouds.

18

## PART TWO

1. Now flip the paper so that the tree is upside down.
2. Above the horizon line, draw the same thing as on the bottom half of the page.
3. Draw everything lightly. You should not be able to see the line after it is erased.

DRAW LIGHTLY



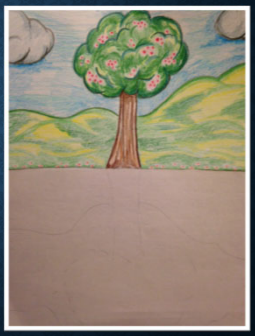
19

## PART THREE

1. Flip the paper back around. The darker drawing of the tree is now on top.
2. Color that part in with colored pencils or crayons. See what happens to the color when you press down hard versus light, and what going over the same section with the same color makes it richer.

ARTIST TIP

Put flowers or fruit in the tree, as it adds color to the reflection.

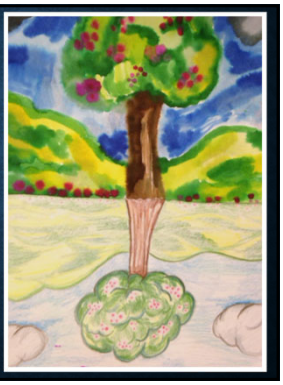


20

## PART FOUR

1. Flip the paper over so that the light pencil side is on top.
2. Paint the tree and background similar to what you did in colored pencil.
3. If you want colors to be lighter, wet your brush and dip just the tip of the brush into the watercolor.

   Or you can put water on the paper with your brush then add a little bit of color.



21

## FINAL RESULTS

Everyone will have their own style and color with their tree.

22