

Learn More about Paul Keene: Create a Grid Collage



A C T I V I T Y S H E E T

Paul Keene loved to create what he called “gridded compositions.” He combined cut paper with drawn, painted and printed images to make an interesting work of art.

Paul Keene’s themes included African art, mythology and city life. If you were to make a gridded collage, what themes would be important to you?

- Collect a variety of objects and images that you can use in a collage. Look through magazines and newspapers. Use old wrapping paper, photographs (with your parent’s permission, of course), paper bags and candy wrappers.
- Cut the collage materials into geometric shapes. Draw a grid on a piece of paper or mat board using a ruler. The squares and rectangles in the grid may be identical, or they may be varied. Do what you think looks best!
- Then, fill each geometric space with collage images. Balance plain color areas with printed images and words for a complete overall visual effect.

Use these Paul Keene images as inspiration for your work! (These images can also be found online at the Bucks County Artists Database www.michenerartmuseum.org.)



Paul Keene, *Variation on a Flute Player*, 1985, acrylic on paper, James A. Michener Art Museum.



Paul Keene, *Orpheus Series*, 1997, collage on panel, 22 x 30 inches, Photo courtesy of the James A. Michener Art Museum’s Library and Archives.



Paul Keene, *Street Quartet*, acrylic on canvas, 54 1/2" x 52 1/2", 1990, James A. Michener Art Museum, Purchased with funds provided by Anne and Joseph Gardocki

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