

Learn More about Vincent Ceglia:

Layered Landscapes

Vincent Ceglia is an abstract artist who is interested in working with a variety of art materials. His acrylic and watercolor compositions often feature much more than paint. He uses many different kinds of paper to build up surfaces and layers in addition to coloring his surfaces with paint.

Vincent Ceglia also loved the landscape, although the project described below would work with any theme – landscape, still life, or portrait. Create an abstract piece just for fun!

- Collect a variety of papers that you can use in a collage. Look at magazines, newspapers, and “junk mail”. Use paper typically found in your kitchen, including waxed paper, aluminum foil, plastic wrap, plastic bags, paper bags, napkins, and paper towels. Use old wrapping paper, candy wrappers, and store receipts.
- When collecting the papers, think about the qualities of the paper. Is the paper opaque? That means you cannot see through it, like aluminum foil. Is the paper translucent? That means you can see through it a little bit, like wax paper and tissue paper. Is the paper transparent? That means you can see through it completely, like clear colored plastic wrap.
- Use polymer medium or watered down white school glue as an adhesive for this project.
- Use acrylic or watercolor paint (or both) for color.
- Set up your work area so the papers, glues, brushes, and paints are all easy to reach.
- Paint basic landscape shapes on a piece of paper, cardboard, or mat board. Use simple colors like blues and greens to define the earth and the sky. Then, start layering the papers on top of the painted areas to build up surfaces of color. Continue to add paint to areas where additional color is needed. Sometimes the color of the papers will be perfect, and sometimes you may want to add more color for a stronger effect. Build layers and add colors until you feel you have made an interesting landscape with a raised surface.

How does your work compare with the Vincent Ceglia paintings below?



Vincent Ceglia, *Ancient Bridge*, 1993, acrylic on canvas, artists collection, photo courtesy James A. Michener Art Museum library



Vincent Ceglia, *Tuscan Town*, 1989, 29 x 30 inches, acrylic on arches paper, James A. Michener Art Museum. Michener Art Endowment Challenge Gift of Barbara Ceglia and Scott MacNeill.



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