

The background is a solid teal color. Overlaid on this are several stylized green plant illustrations. On the left, there are three vertical, segmented stems resembling cacti or succulents. On the right, there is a tall, thin, branching plant. In the bottom left, there is a star-shaped plant with five pointed leaves. In the top right, there is a plant with several long, narrow, pointed leaves.

Hockney

Un Paradis retrouvé

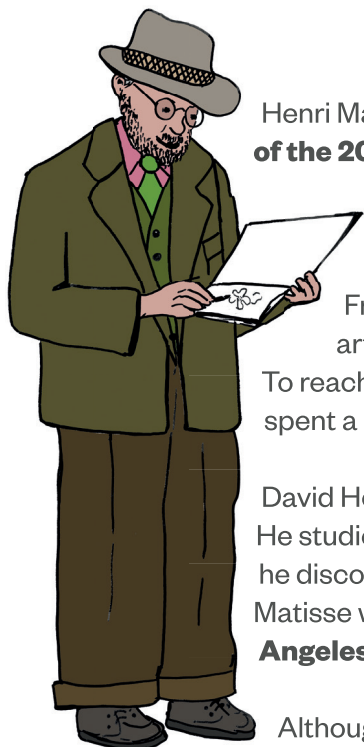
Matisse

Exhibition from June 9 to September 18, 2022

activity booklet

Henri Matisse

David Hockney



Henri Matisse and David Hockney are **two major artists of the 20th century**. Both were very inventive and created new art forms.

Henri Matisse was born in 1869 in the north of France and died in 1954 in Nice. He trained as an artist in Paris and then traveled around the world.

To reach Tahiti in 1930, he crossed the United States. He spent a large part of his life on the **French Riviera**, in **Nice**.

David Hockney was born in 1937 in Bradford, England. He studied at the Royal College of Art in London. In 1961, he discovered New York. He also traveled a lot. Like Matisse who was fond of Nice, he is deeply attached to **Los Angeles in California**.

Although he never met Matisse in person, Hockney greatly admires his work, which he has seen in various museums and exhibitions. In California, he had his house painted in blue and pink. Matched with the green of the surrounding vegetation, these colours are the same as the ones used by Matisse in his painting *La Danse* (1910).

Since 2020, he has been living in Normandy, France.

While visiting the exhibition, you will understand why it is so interesting **to compare Matisse and Hockney's works**. If each artist has his own unique style and approach, many parallels can be drawn between them in the themes they choose, the colours they use and the way they paint.

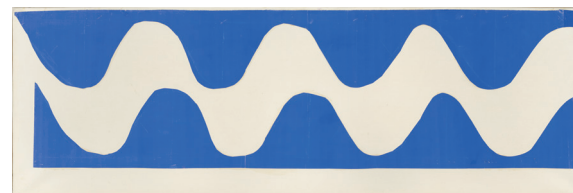


Swimming Pools

Depicting water – its texture, its movements, its changing colors – is a real challenge for artists!

Henri Matisse and David Hockney have found unique ways to depict it. You will find some examples at the beginning of the exhibition, in works showing swimming pools.

With your coloured pencils, try to represent water in different ways, using different types of lines:



Henri Matisse, *La Vague*, ca. 1952, cut-out mounted on canvas, Musée Matisse Nice

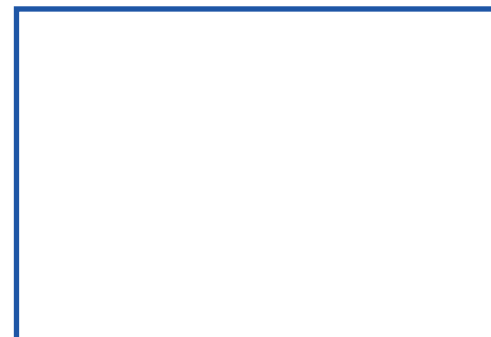
with slanting lines



with wavy lines



with « free » lines



Go upstairs to see the next section of the exhibition!

iPad Flowers...

David Hockney is very curious and loves discovering **new painting techniques**. He was thrilled to **start using an iPad in 2010**. This series of bouquets shows how spontaneously he manages to paint on a tablet.

Come closer! Hockney doesn't try to cover up the different iPad marks as he doesn't want the flowers to look as if they were photographed. But thanks to his drawing skills, the flowers he depicts can easily be identified.

Can you identify the following flowers in the paintings?



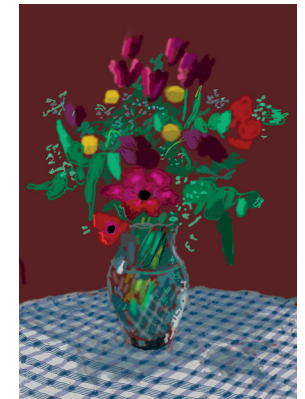
You may recognise some of these flowers when you when you walk around town and in gardens or go to the florist's. **Keep your eyes open** because, as Matisse says, "**there are flowers everywhere for those who want to see them.**" (Jazz, 1947)

... and their Frames

The **frame** is an important element in the presentation of a painting. Depending on the date of a painting and the artist's taste, the frames vary a lot, from showy and highly decorated to simple and unnoticeable.

Here, David Hockney chose to contrast the most recent iPad technology with the old-fashioned style of hand-carved wooden frames.

Create new frames for these *Fresh Flowers*:



David Hockney, 23rd March 2021, 16th February 2021
et 21st April 2021, 2021, iPad paintings
Collection of the artist

After walking through the 'Flower gallery', take some time to look at the photographs of the two artists in their studios, then go upstairs to discover the following sections of the exhibition.

Self-portraits

A **self-portrait** is a portrait that an artist produces of themselves, acting both as **creator and model** of an artwork. Usually, the artist depicts their face and parts of their body.

In the next room you will find two self-portraits of a slightly different type, one in which Matisse only shows his hand and foot and another in which Hockney shows his leg and foot. By doing so, they both include themselves in the representation of places they have visited.

Did you find them? Write down the titles of these two works:

Henri Matisse :

David Hockney :

As a souvenir of your visit, do your own self-portrait following Matisse and Hockney's original approach:

1. Take pictures

With your parents' help, take one or more photos of yourself in the exhibition. Focus on a part of your body and try not to show your face.

2. Print your pictures

When you get back home, ask your parents to print your photo(s).

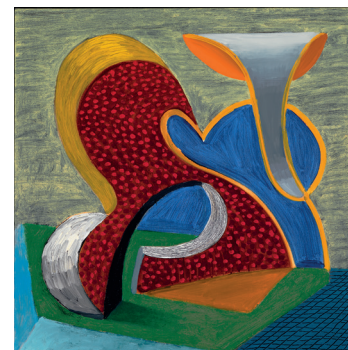
3. Create an artwork

Use felt pens or pens to customise your photo(s), and paste your photos together to make a collage. Your souvenir photo will turn into a real masterpiece !

Sensory Landscapes

Matisse and Hockney often paint with **bright colours** that are not always those of reality, but enable them to convey more expressiveness through their art. They also get rid of **traditional perspective** (the technique of creating the illusion of three-dimensional space on a flat surface). Both artists succeed in depicting things that are not visible in real life !

Look at **Jardin à Issy** and **The Fourth V.N. Painting**. These are landscapes that may seem surprising to you. They don't describe a specific time or location and are more of a combination of several places, moments and emotions. They make visible a world of sensations and trigger all our senses.



David Hockney, *The Fourth V.N. Painting*, 1992, oil on canvas, collection of the David Hockney Foundation



Henri Matisse, *Jardin à Issy (L'Atelier à Clamart)*, ca. 1917, oil on canvas, Fondation Beyeler, Riehen/Bâle, Beyeler Collection

« They [these paintings] are a bit mind-boggling, but they are meant to be. The viewer can roam freely within them, finding his or her own space. »

David Hockney

What do you see? How do you feel about these works? Choose one of the two paintings and circle the words that best describe it:

road cave forest pond fire labyrinth geometric shapes
suffocating happy garden freshness calm storm fields
full of energy canyon meadow wave dream strange

Using these or other words, give the painting a new title: .

.....

The exhibition
continues upstairs

Windows

The **window** is a recurrent motif in both Matisse and Hockney's work. It blurs the boundaries between the interior and the exterior which become one in some paintings.

During your visit, find the paintings in which you can spot windows. Write down the titles of some of them:

1.
2.
3.
4.

Naked bodies

As you might have noticed while visiting museums, the nude is a traditional theme in art. You might also have noticed that women are more often depicted naked than men.

Unlike Matisse, who almost exclusively chose female models, Hockney likes to work with male models.

Look at *Boy in Shower* and *Nu dans un fauteuil, plante verte*. Can you spot the differences and similarities between these paintings ?

Both paintings:

Are painted in flat surfaces of bright colours
true / false



David Hockney, *Boy in Shower*, 1977, oil on canvas, collection of the David Hockney Foundation

Depict naked bodies with a lot of details
true / false

Are painted in oil
true / false

Show vegetation in the background
true / false

Show a female body



Henri Matisse, *Nu dans un fauteuil, plante verte*, 1936, oil on canvas, Musée Matisse Nice

true / false

Change Your Style!

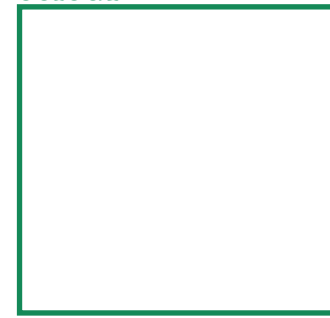
Both Matisse and Hockney often changed their style, i.e. the way they paint. In this room you will find several examples of these experiments.

Try to represent a flower in different ways:

with short strokes of different colours



with only one colour



sketched out in a few lines



Objects are Alive!

Hockney and Matisse like to represent their workplaces (**studios**) and the **objects** that surround them, from the most banal to the most extraordinary ones. These objects feed their imagination and sometimes become the main characters in their paintings.

See for example *Fauteuil rocaille* and *Green Easy Chair*. The two artists portray these chairs as if they were human beings: they seem almost alive!

Your turn! Pick an object or piece of furniture and draw it, trying to “bring it to life”:



Give your drawing a title :

Lush Gardens

It is probably when Matisse and Hockney are **inspired by gardens** that they are the closest. Matisse’s **French Riviera** and Hockney’s **California** come together in the most obvious way when the artists express their love of nature. Even if these two regions are far apart, they have a similar sunny climate. The same exotic plants grow in both places prompting the artists to use a similar colour palette.

Look for these elements in the works:

- | | | | | |
|--------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------|
| Cactus | Balustrade | Pool | Palm Tree | Boat |
| Agave | Flower | Pomegranate | Fern | Roots |

Use the works showed in this room as an inspiration to describe your imaginary dream garden in a few sentences:

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David Hockney, *Two Pots on the Terrace*, 2016, acrylic on canvas, collection of the artist



David Hockney painting *Two Pots on the Terrace*, 2016 | Photo : Jean-Pierre Gonçalves de Lima

Activities related to the exhibition :

Throughout the summer, the museum organises guided tours, art workshops for children, adults and families (most of these activities are in French).

The programme can be found on the museum's website, under the heading 'activities': **musee-matisse-nice.org**

Musée Matisse

164, avenue des Arènes de Cimiez - Nice

Open every day except Tuesday

Free for under 18 and for students

Practical information: musee-matisse-nice.org

Follow us on Instagram !



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