Natural Style
with Monty Montgomery

Monty Montgomery’s artistic vision can be described as an emotional language created using his innate intuition of color and object relationships to connect with the viewer. Profoundly affected by his upbringing in the rural Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia, Monty’s work is informed by his visceral and emotional reactions to daily experiences whether in exploration of nature or trekking city streets. Exposure to divergent settings and combining urban sensory input with his impressions of the natural landscape has inspired a collision into one expression where he attempts through color theory, mathematics and abstraction to share his journey and create a unique geometric style.
What is an Artistic Style?

Art style describes the way the artwork looks. Style is the way an artist portrays their subject matter and how the artist expresses their vision. The style is determined by the characteristics that describe the artwork and the way an artist uses form, color and composition. Artistic Style is the unique way the artist makes their art work.

Monty has his own artistic style. Below are paintings he made of natural scenes from life. Can you tell what these images depict?
Draw from life outside in your own style!

Take a step outside, how do you see your natural surroundings? Get inspired by the way Monty sees things. He uses a unique colorful geometric style to make sense of his world visually. Make a drawing of your natural environment. Your imagination is the limit; create your own style of seeing things.

1. For inspiration go outside, take a walk and look around! Bring your sketch book or a hard surface with some paper. Also don’t forget something to draw with like a pencil, pen, marker, crayon or brush with paint.

2. While you look around ask yourself questions... What do I see? Are there people? Animals? Plants? Flowers? What does it smell like? What sounds do I hear? How do I feel? What do I like most of all these things? These questions will help inform what style of art you will make and how you will make it.

3. Once you find a subject or scene you’d like to depict in your own style. Get set up and comfortable to start your own “natural style” of art! Draw what you see the way you see it, start with lines and shapes to breakdown the image in a way that makes sense for you. You are the artist! You control the colors, shapes and lines. They can look any way you want. Remember there are no mistakes while making art only explorations and discoveries to make. We are all artists with unique visions and styles!

Here is an example of art made from life outside by Monty in his unique style!