

Artist Kelly Reedy will be sharing some of her favorite kids' art projects with students, parents and teachers over the coming months. Students aged 6 to 12 made the following project, but children of all ages will also enjoy doing it!

## Line and Landscape!

with artist Kelly Reedy

**Studio Arts**  
4 kids + adults

John Olsen (b.1928) is a famous Australian artist. He has traveled all over Australia painting the birds, animals and landscapes of each region. His work often looks like he is peering down at the countryside from an airplane. He is called an abstract artist because of the way his work uses simple lines and shapes to depict a scene. But Olsen says, "I have never painted an abstract painting in my life." Rather he claims that his work is "an exploration of the totality of landscape". How would you paint the landscape if you had a bird's eye view? Let's try by using coloured pencils, inks, oil pastels and watercolours to create a fluid impression of the world seen from above!



"Five Bells" by John Olsen

### Tools

- watercolour paper
- watercolour pencils
- watercolour paints
- coloured inks
- oil pastels
- brushes
- water and rags for cleaning up

### Techniques

- Wax Resist (use a white oil pastel to draw lines or shapes on your paper, later paint over the top with watercolour to see the white revealed, coloured oil pastels work too)
- Mixed Media (build up layers of watercolour, inks and oil pastels to obtain rich textures)
- Straw Blowing (use a plastic straw to spread blobs of ink around on your watercolour paper for surprising effects)
- Blot Drawings (make a series of blots on your paper with ink and then use your imagination to create something new out of them)

I gave my students images of the earth taken by a satellite. See how they played with their materials to create patterns and beautiful abstract compositions. But remember their work is based on a photo of something real! Here are a few examples of my students' work. Go search for some aerial photos and see what you can do with the mixed media techniques. Be creative and have fun!!!



Anika Levy-Groth, age 6



Julius Scherrieble, age 8



Apolline Mimiatura, age 12



Sophie Scherrieble, age 11



Mia Levy-Groth, age 11



Paloma June, age 9

For more information about the artist and Studio Arts courses for children and adults, please visit [www.kellyreedy.com](http://www.kellyreedy.com)