



Painted Paper Art

Natalia Goncharova



Cherry
Blossoms



About the Artist

Natalia Goncharova was a painter, illustrator, and set and costume designer born in 1881 into a well to do family in Nagaievo, Russia. Her father was an architect and a descendent of Aleksandr Pushkin, the famous poet, novelist and legendary Russian icon. When Natalia was a young girl she lived on her grandmother's large country estate, where she developed a lifelong love of village life and nature. Despite their elite family ties however, the family suffered financially. When Natalia was ten years old her father moved the family to Moscow to seek better financial opportunities.



Natalia Goncharova

In 1901, she began attending the Moscow Institute of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture. She started by studying sculpture but later switched to painting, at the encouragement of her friend and fellow art student. At this time she was greatly influenced by her French contemporaries such as Cézanne, Gauguin, and Matisse while at the same time learning the incredible importance and value present in Russian art.



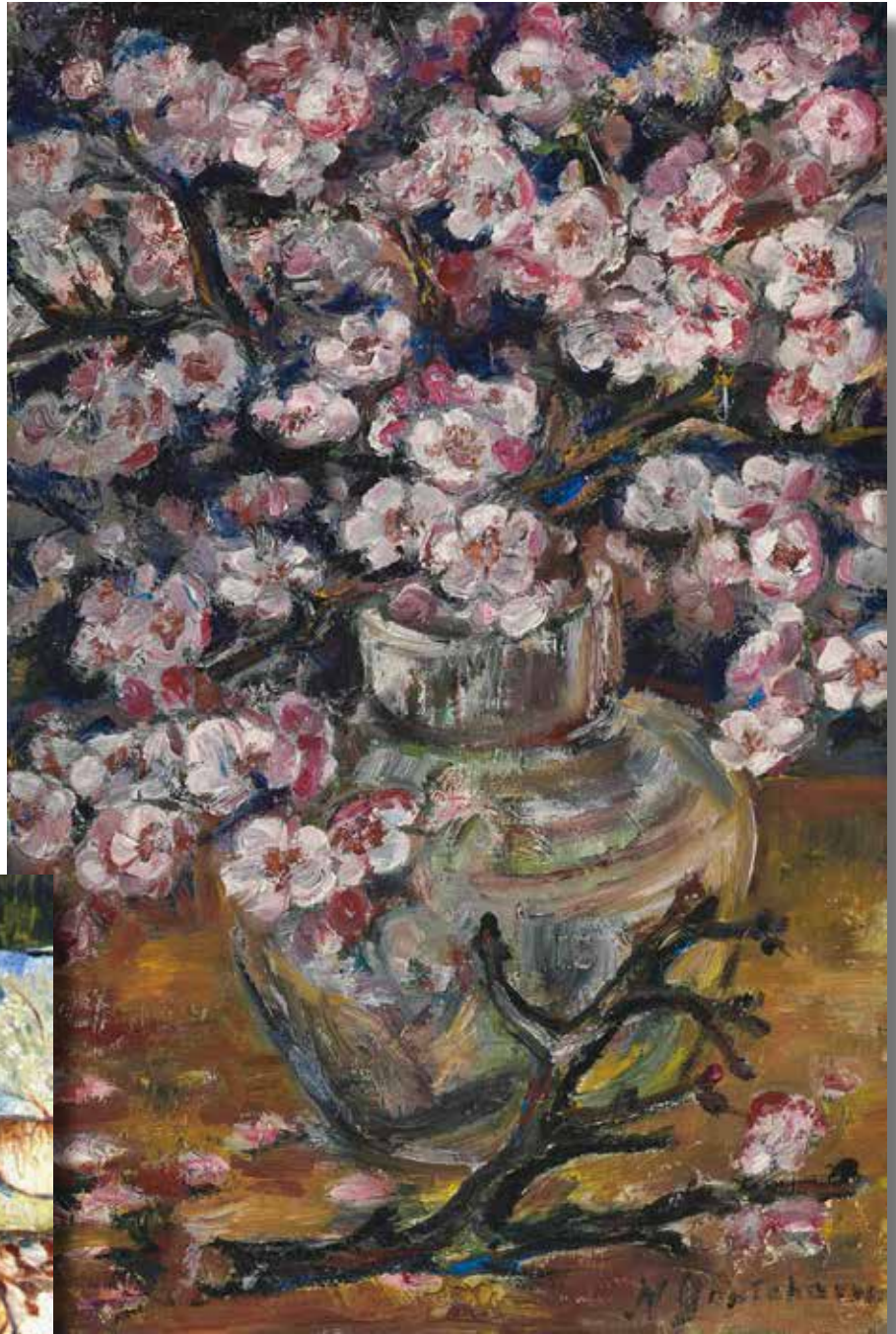
The artist in her Paris studio.

In 1910 she began associating with avant-garde painters and liked to work dressed in traditional Russian peasant fashion complete with head scarf.

Her move to Paris in 1914 brought the opportunity to work in stage design for the local theater. This work influenced her paintings of the 1920's, and inspired her travels, particularly to Spain, a country she adored.

In 1929, though she continued to work, Natalia fell into financial hardship. By the 1950's she suffered from such severe arthritis that she had to tie her paintbrush to her hand in order to work. She died in Paris on October 17, 1962 at the age of 81.

Often seen as a controversial figure in both her public persona and her art, Natalia Goncharova was very fond of the simpleness of nature and country life. Her love of nature can be found in her oil on canvas still life painting titled *Cherry blossoms in a vase*.



Cherry blossoms in a vase (undated)



Self-portrait with yellow lilies (1907)



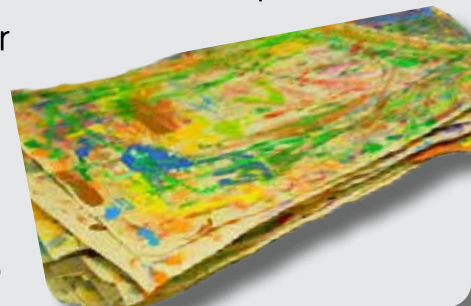
Supplies

Look for this icon
for hands-on
information and
helpful tips.



- ☐ Construction paper in dark shades
- ☐ Small & medium flat paintbrushes
- ☐ Tempera paint
- ☐ Painting placemat

I suggest using placemats to protect your tabletops. I always have placemats at the work tables so students can clean their brushes, instead of rinsing them in water, and keep the tables somewhat clean. I use 18" x 24" pieces of tagboard or an open manila folder to make the placemats. Both work great and when we are finished, we take those brushstroke laden placemats and use them for other projects.





Step 1

Creating the Table Top



Use red, pink, orange, yellow, and white tempera paint with a medium flat brush to create the table top along the bottom third of the construction paper.

Keep the paint on the tip of the brush to have more control over the paint and to create a “dry brush” painterly effect.



Step 2

Painting the Background

Wipe any excess paint from your brush onto the upper unpainted portion of the construction paper. This will be the background behind the flowers. You can add a touch of white paint to the background if needed.



Step 3

Creating the Flowers



Continue with the medium flat brush. Dip the corner of the brush into pink paint. Tap small dots sporadically around the background. These will be the centers of the flowers.

Dip the same brush into white paint. Gently press the brush around the pink dots (do not drag the brush). Do this 4 to 5 times around each pink dot to create the petals. You don't need a lot of paint on your brush. Pressing the bristles down will cause the paint to ooze, creating the desired petal shape. My students really enjoyed this process of painting the petals. They were fascinated by how the paint oozed under the brush.

I am often questioned about which tempera paint I use. I buy Crayola and Dick Blick premium tempera paint. I usually mix paints to create various shades. Do not be afraid to try this with your students. They love mixing. I also pour small amounts in styrofoam egg cartons so as not to waste a lot of paint. This works great and saves on clean up time as well.





Step 4

Creating the Vase



Mixing white paint with any color will create a tint of that color. For example, mixing red and white will create pink.



Continue with the medium flat brush. Use a lighter shade of paint to make a 'U' shaped vase on the table top. Fill in the vase using the same color. Add some white to create a tint but don't over blend the colors.

Step 5

Adding Branches



Use a small round or flat brush with black and/or brown paint. Create branches on the background, filling in between the flowers. Be sure not to paint onto the flowers.

If desired, you can also create a larger branch laying on the table in front of the vase.



Step 6

Adding Highlights



Use the medium flat brush and white paint to add highlights to the vase.

Do the same to the branch in the foreground if applicable.

Gallery





Painted Paper Art

TERMS OF USE:

I hope that you enjoy this lesson and find it helpful. Visit our Teachers Pay Teachers shop for more colorful art lessons. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me. Please tag me on Instagram or Facebook so I can enjoy and share your little artists' delightful masterpieces.

Connect with us by clicking the icons below.



Copying any part of this product and placing it on the internet in any form (even a personal/classroom website) is strictly forbidden and is a violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). These items will be located by Google and traced back to the publishing site.

Thanks,
Laura xoxo



laura.lohmann@paintedpaperart.com