

PORTFOLIO COPY

BACKGROUND READING FOR PRESENTERS

Raoul Dufy (dyu FE) 1877-1953

Source: Teaching Guide for My Weekly Reader Art Gallery, 1965-66

Raoul Dufy was born in France. He was one of nine children. His father, who played the organ, gave each of his children a lifelong love of music. Young Raoul also loved to draw and paint. The family was poor, so at the age of fourteen Dufy had to leave school and go to work. But Dufy went to art school at night. He painted pictures of docks, beaches, and the countryside.

In 1900 Dufy won an art scholarship which enabled him to go to Paris to study. From this time on, Dufy gave all of his time to art. Many people admired and bought his work. The artist was never poor again.

Dufy was always able to look at the bright side of life. His paintings were about celebrations, the opera, the circus, and boat races. He liked to paint pictures of beautiful places and happy people. Dufy painted in bright colors. He was able to suggest people and places with a few curved lines.

Because Dufy's art was colorful and joyous, it was well suited to making things that were both useful and beautiful. He designed fabrics, ceramics, books, stage sets, and wall hangings.

Dufy had a painful illness for many years, but he continued to work. Whenever he was able, Dufy painted pictures full of fun and excitement. His art showed no sign of hard work. It showed only the happy and tender spirit of Raoul Dufy.

From *Pictures to Grow up With* by Katharine Gibson

Dufy gives the feeling of fresh air, movement, gaiety. He combines many ways of painting lines--a flat wash of paint, curving brush strokes for the waves, and, on the sails, quick short strokes that act like an exclamation point at the end of a sentence giving added rigor to the scene.

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ART PRESENTER PROGRAM

Regatta

Raoul Dufy -French 1877-1953

SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Description

What do you see in the painting?

The name of the painting is *Regatta*. What do you think a Regatta is? (boat race)

How many boats or ships do you see?

Are they all the same? How are they different?

What do we call the smaller boats? (tug boats)

Some of the boats have smokestacks. What are they for?

Point out some sails. Why does a boat have one?

Where do you see land? (You or a student point to the horizon line where the sky meets the water.)

Describe the kind of day it is. (stormy, sunny, windy, cloudy, calm) How can you tell?

2. Color

Name the colors you see in the painting.

Name the color that seems most important (brightest).

What does Dufy use the color black for in this painting? (outlining)

3. Line and Shape

What shapes do you see? (triangle shapes for sails; short, brushed rectangular shapes for water and some of the boats; curved shapes for clouds)

4 Emotional Response

Would you like to have this painting in your home?

If so, what room would you hang it in?

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Kindergarten

Regatta

Raoul Dufy

MONMOUTH ART PRESENTER PROGRAM

EXTENDED ACTIVITIES

1. This activity emphasizes color, shapes, lines, just like Dufy, plus it has a water theme and boats.

Blue crayons, white paper.

Use the side of a piece of blue crayon to fill in the sky on a piece of white paper. They may want to leave an area for clouds. Then, with a different shade of blue, color the water. Use a black crayon to outline the line between sky and water. Add several boats (triangles) with a black crayon, or there are boats in the bag if the student wants to cut out a few and glue onto the paper instead of drawing their own. They may just want to draw their own boats on white paper, cut them out, and glue onto the picture.