

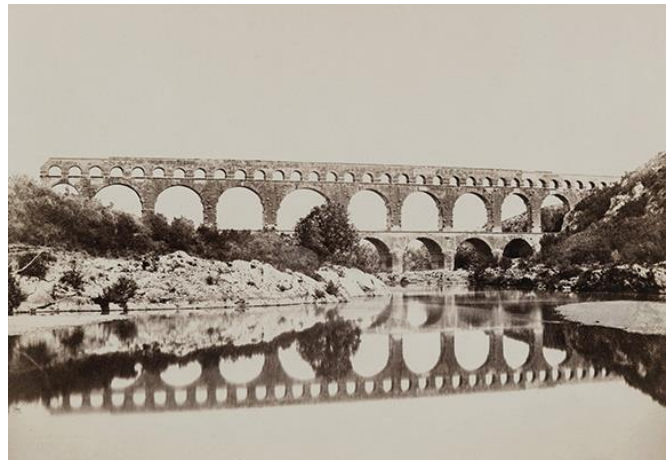


Studio Sunday on the Front Steps August 2017 Activity Watercolor

Mix media by painting a watercolor landscape background then layering a transparent print of Édouard-Denis Baldus' *Pont du Gard*, on view in *Highlights of the Permanent Collection*, over the composition.

For this project you will need:

- Watercolor paper
- Cup of water
- Watercolor paints and paintbrush
- Gluestick
- Pencil
- Inspiration work printed on transparency sheet



Édouard-Denis Baldus, *Pont du Gard*, ca. 1860s. Albumen print. SBMA, Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Kingman Douglass.

Let's begin!

1. On the watercolor paper, trace around the black borders of the transparency image to set the area for your background. (Tip: put the watercolor paper over the transparency to trace the edges; use a window or light under a glass surface to make the border more visible)
2. Using watercolors, paint inside the black borders to create an abstract background for the scene.
3. Allow the watercolor background to dry.
4. Using the glue stick, attach the transparency image of the exhibition photo over the watercolor background.

Tips & Tricks

- The top and bottom of the photograph are mirror images, as the sky, bridge, and landscape are reflected in the water below. How can you mirror the two halves of your painting? How might the top half of your background be distorted in its reflection in the water?
- Add color across the middle of the image to make the trees, rocks, and the surface of the water pop.
- Think about the time of day and the weather in your background. How do the light and colors change throughout the day? How would it look if it was a rainy day? Sunny?
- Are there people or other objects in this scene? Do they appear in both the landscape and its reflection?
- This photograph was taken before photographs were in color—can you emulate the style by limiting your color palette to one or two colors?

