

Henri Matisse

Pronounce Henri Matisse

On-REE Ma-TEES

TECHNIQUE

Matisse generally cut the shapes out freehand, using a small pair of scissors and saving both the item cut out and remaining scraps of paper. With the help of Lydia Delectorskaya he would arrange and rearrange the colored cutouts until he was completely satisfied that the results. It took two years to complete the twenty collages and, after years of trial and error, a practical and appropriate method was agreed upon for bringing the collages to life as two-dimensional works.

After having cut out the shapes, the second part of the creative process entailed pinning the cut pieces of paper to the walls of his studio, which created a paradisaical, garden-like world of organic shapes that resembled algae, leaves, seaweed, and coral, shapes recalling patterns that appeared in many of Matisse's earliest works, which floated atop brilliantly colored grounds. When the desired balance of form and color was achieved, the finished composition was glued to some type of support such as paper, canvas, or board.

http://www.henri-matisse.net/cut_outs.html



The Horse, The Rider and the Clown

In *The Horse, the Rider, and the Clown* the horse is the only distinct figure; the equestrienne is implied by her fan-shaped skirt, overlapping the horse's flank and the clown by his vibrant costume in green, black, and yellow.

<http://www.museum.cornell.edu/hfj/handbook/hb155.html>