



# Organic Artifacts of Earth

Mr. Testa

# *L2: Mother Earth*

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*Terra* (Roman Mythology) – The Roman earth Goddess.

# Background Information

Landscape, is the depiction of natural scenery such as mountains, valleys, trees, rivers, and forests, especially where the main subject is a wide view—with its elements arranged into a coherent composition.

This type of painting may or may not include man-made structures as well as people.

Landscape as an independent genre did not emerge in the Western tradition until the Renaissance in the 16th century (Encyclopedia Britannica).

Georgia O'Keeffe at "291", 1917. Platinum print.

# Artist: Georgia O'Keeffe

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Born: November 15, 1887. O'Keeffe grew up on a farm near Sun Prairie, Wisconsin.

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In the summer of 1929, O'Keeffe made the first of many trips to northern New Mexico. For the next two decades she spent most summers living and working in New Mexico.

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O'Keeffe's work was inspired by the vast open landscapes of New Mexico, combined with Native American and Hispanic cultures.



*Source: okeeffemuseum.org*



Documentary

Georgia  
O'Keeffe



# O'Keeffe's Landscapes



Source: The Burnett Foundation

***Black Mesa Landscape, New Mexico /  
Out Back of Marie's II 1930,***



Source: Brauer Museum of Art, Valparaiso University

***Rust Red Hills 1930, oil on canvas,  
40.6 x 76.2 cm***

Frankenthaler in her East 83rd Street studio, New York, 1969

# Artist: Helen Frankenthaler

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Her career spanned six decades, has long been recognized as one of the great American artists of the twentieth century.

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She was eminent among the second generation of postwar American abstract painters and is widely credited for playing a pivotal role in the transition from Abstract Expressionism to Color Field painting.

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Through her invention of the soak-stain technique, she expanded the possibilities of abstract painting, while at times referencing figuration and landscape in unique ways.



Source: Getty Images

# SFMOMA Short

Helen

Frankenthaler

Transcends

Abstract

Expressionism





# Frankenthaler's Landscapes



Source: Gagosian.com, Photo: Rob McKeever

***Fable*, 1961 Oil and charcoal on unsized, unprimed canvas 94 ½ x 99 in.**



Source: Gagosian.com, Photo: Rob McKeever

***Untitled*, 1958 Oil and charcoal on primed canvas, 78 5/8 x 83 ¼ in.**

# Installation

## Video

Helen

Frankenthaler:

Imagining

landscapes Exhibit



Source: Gagosian.com

**Mini Project:**  
Plein-Air Gestural  
Sketches

# Artist: Faith Ringgold

Faith Ringgold, 1993

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Faith Ringgold was born 1930 in Harlem, New York, is a painter, mixed media sculptor, performance artist, writer, teacher and lecturer.

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During the early 1960's Ringgold traveled in Europe. She created her first political paintings, The American People Series from 1963 to 1967 and had her first and second one-person exhibitions at the Spectrum Gallery in New York.

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In the early 1970's Ringgold began making tankas (inspired by a Tibetan art form of paintings framed in richly brocaded fabrics), soft sculptures and masks.



Source: [faithringgold.com](http://faithringgold.com)



CBS Sunday Morning

Faith Ringgold's  
Art of  
Fearlessness and  
Joy



# Ringgold's Landscapes



Source: [faithringgold.com](http://faithringgold.com)

**Coming to Jones Road #5: A Long and Lonely Night, 2000**

Acrylic on canvas with fabric border, 76 x 52 1/2 in.



Source: [faithringgold.com](http://faithringgold.com)

**Coming to Jones Road #4: Under A Blood Red Sky, 2000**

Acrylic on canvas with fabric borders, 78 1/2 x 52 1/2 in.

Kay WalkingStick, 1997

# Artist: Kay WalkingStick

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Kay WalkingStick was born in 1935. Her work focuses on the American Landscape and its metaphorical significances, not only to Native Americans but also to all citizenry.

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The landscape sustains us physically and spiritually. It is our beautiful corner of the cosmos.

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My present paintings of mountains and sea are vistas of memory — our America the beautiful. They are meant to glorify our land and honor those people who first lived upon it (WalkingStick, 2015).



Source: [kaywalkingstick.com](http://kaywalkingstick.com)

# Documentary

"Hear My Voice"

Artist Profile: Kay

WalkingStick





# WalkingStick's Landscapes



Source: [americanindian.si.edu](http://americanindian.si.edu)

***New Mexico Desert*, 2011.**  
Oil on wood panel, 40 x 80 x 2 in.



Source: [americanindian.si.edu](http://americanindian.si.edu)

***Venere Alpina*, 1997.**  
Oil on canvas (left), steel mesh over acrylic,  
wax, and plastic stones (right), 32 x 64 in.

## **Extensive Investigation:**

Using Drawing, Writing or Poetry investigate the life and perspective, behind the brush-strokes of one or more of the included Artists.

# Artists:

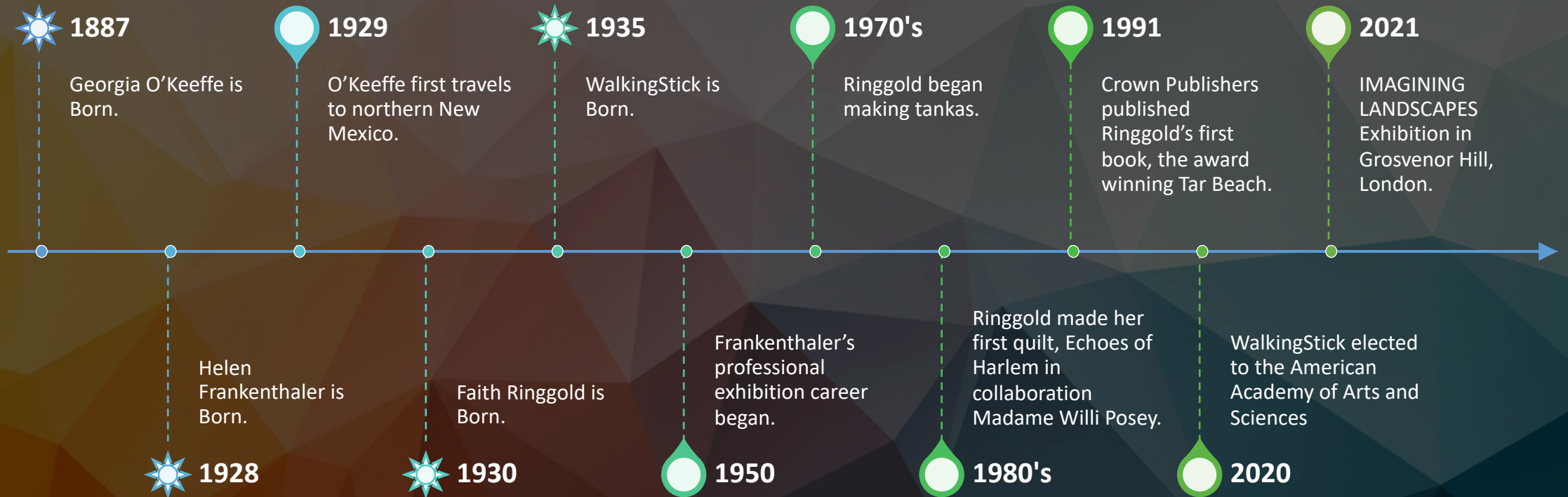
Georgia O'Keeffe

Helen Frankenthaler

Faith Ringgold

Kay WalkingStick

# Timeline of Selected Events



# Final Project: *Mother Earth*

## Create & Reflect

1. Using any media, medium or material: Create an original work of art capturing the landscape of Earth.
2. Reflect on your artmaking throughout the process, by photographing your work and write a short Artist Statement summarizing the work.



## References

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