

DIGITAL AGNES

Agnes Etherington Art Centre at Queen's University
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Nature in abstract

Agnes Learns

2023

SPEAKERS

Shu Wang

KEYWORDS

Agnes Learns, Grades 7–8, School Resource, Children's Education, Canadian Art, Abstract Art, Drawing

FEATURED WORKS

Kazuo Nakamura, *Plants in the Sun*, 1955, ink on paper. Gift of Herbert O. Bunt, 2018

TRANSCRIPT

Shu Wang: *Plants in the Sun* is an abstract drawing created by Kazuo Nakamura in 1955 with ink on paper. Nakamura was a Japanese-Canadian artist born in Vancouver in 1926. He was a member of Painters Eleven, a group of artists based in Toronto who shared a passion for abstract art.

Plants in the Sun is composed of geometric and organic shapes, waves, lines, and dots.

This drawing has a sketch-like quality. The Sun is represented by a circular shape, and the plants are formed with small, short curves, some of which are bold, others are faint.

This abstract image does not attempt to depict a realistic natural scene but rather uses elements of art to create a *feelings* of plants and the Sun.

According to Nakamura, art is not only about expressing emotions, but also about how a person views their surroundings and thoughts in relation to scientific and philosophical ideas. Nakamura himself looked for universal patterns in art and nature.

How would you describe the patterns created by line in *Plants in the Sun*?

What are some patterns *you* see in nature?