

Big, Beautiful, Ugly, Wild

First, familiarize yourself with the artist Hannaleena Heiska's [animal themed artwork](#) and to her thoughts in the articles below.

Kuvataiteilija Hannaleena Heiska: "Understanding a painting can be very slow, if you believe that you need to understand it right." [LINK](#)

"How does it feel to be someone else?" [LINK](#)

Artist Hannaleena Heiska: "We people are made of stardust" [LINK](#)

Get ready to work by making yourself space. Protect the table or the floor if need be. Tape 4-8 A4-sized paper together from the flipside to get one big piece of paper. Of course, you can also use a single big piece of paper, if you happen to have some.

You can attach the paper to the wall or work on a table or on the floor. Turn on your favourite music. Listen in peace. What animal do you think of when you listen to the music? What kind of animal could the music be about? What kind of emotions are conveyed by the music? How could those emotions be shown in the animals and in their entire form?

You can use the inspiration you got from Heiska's animal paintings any way you like. Paint and draw. Don't use an eraser.

What you need

4-8 pieces of A4-sized paper or a large piece of paper, masking tape (or other tape), drawing utensils, colours, paint.

Goal

Try to fill the whole paper. Aim for freedom from too much control. Seek to relax yourself in the beginning. Accept and trust in coincidence and its effect on the result. Don't strive to achieve, but rather, focus on expression. Notice how music affects the images in your mind and your colour choices.

Background

When you make a picture, your whole body is involved, not just the hand that is holding the pen or the paint brush.



Picture: Antoine-Louis Barye: Tiger at Rest,
c. 1850–65 (CC0)