

Alex Katz Session: See Alex Katz PDF. 22 April 2020

tulip (n.) etymology

1570s, via Dutch or German tulpe, French tulipe "a tulip" (16c.), all ultimately from Turkish tülbent "turban," also "gauze, muslin," from Persian dulband "turban;" so called from the fancied resemblance of the flower to a turban.

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Tulip plant

Tulips (Tulipa) form a genus of spring-blooming perennial herbaceous bulbiferous geophytes (having bulbs as storage organs).

The tulip is a member of the lily family, Liliaceae,

In their natural state they are adapted to steppes and mountainous areas with temperate climates.

Observations: Mentally create a picture of the object directly and in memory.



Form: cone shape petals. smooth, long, elongated leaves. Stem smooth and straight, flexible and dynamic. No joints. Single flower per bulb. Cup like vessel Colour" off white pinky petal. Shiny texture.

STEPS:

1.Begin gestural Drawing. Continuous line drawings of individual parts and can be timed exercises. After time a more defined line appears.

Experience the flowing movement and rhythm of the shapes and the quality/expression of the forms. You can move your arms, hands, pencils off the page to follow the lines and shapes of the plant.





2. Begin looking for dark and light on the object. Leave white and light areas blank. Only mark/paint the dark and shade. The structure then appears.

3. Use watercolour (any paints or colours) without pencil. Layers for darker areas. Leave light areas.

4. Create a frame to play with compositions and structuring the image. Katz examples takes out and reduces visual information and flattens background usually with one colour.



Katz has captured a fresh, summer light with economic passages of paint. He has been painting flowers since the 1960s, often painted during summer residences in Malis. The cropped, flattened composition stays a debt to Japanese art. Katz is well known for his large paintings, whose bold simplicity and unmodulated colours are now seen as precursors of Pop Art. Small oil paintings such as this one are sketched from life and often intended to be scaled up into large works, but their economic execution and visible brushstrokes reveal an intimate side to his practice. He says, "A sketch is very direct. It is working empirically, inside of an idea."¹⁰

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/katz-tulips-a00002>