



PARRISH ART MUSEUM

Parrish Home Art Studios

ROOM WITH A VIEW

Many artists are inspired by their home surroundings. Fairfield Porter painted what he saw from his back porch and studio window. In the exhibition [Housebound: Fairfield Porter and His Circle of Poets and Painters](#) you can see interior scenes and landscapes, in and around Porter's houses in Southampton and Maine. Look closely at the works below; what is the artist's point of view? What lines and shapes do you see?

Materials

Paper

Pencil

Colored Pencils

Watercolor Paint and Brushes

Black Permanent Marker



Left: Fairfield Porter, American, 1907–1975, [On the Porch](#), ca. 1948, Oil on canvas, 30 X 24 1/8 inches, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, N.Y., Gift of the Estate of Fairfield Porter, 1980.10.28. Right: Fairfield Porter, American, 1907–1975, [Backyard, Southampton](#), 1953, Oil on canvas, 42 x 43 3/4 inches, Parrish Art Museum, Water Mill, N.Y., Gift of the Estate of Fairfield Porter, 1980.10.

DAY 1

Choose a window and find a view that you like. Is there a special spot in your yard that you and your friends or family really enjoy? Try to capture how that view makes you feel. Sketch your impression of the scene in pencil. Remember, this is not a photograph! Enjoy the process of creating without trying to make your art realistic.



While you sketch, think about the time of day, the weather conditions, and the season. The light of the sun changes the way colors appear. Is it cloudy? Is it sunset? Pay attention to shadows and highlights on the elements you are drawing. Press hard to capture a darker tone with your pencil, and lightly to create a paler tone. Remember to draw the horizon line that separates the sky from the ground. Focus on one area and notice the shapes and textures of trees, buildings, grasses, or whatever else is in your view. When you complete the sketch, emphasize lines with permanent marker, and then add color with watercolor paint or colored pencils.

DAY 2



Revisit the scene and compare it to your drawing from yesterday. What differences do you see? Now, imagine your scene in the future. What will it look like during each season of the year? Make a drawing for summer, fall, and winter.

TAKE IT FURTHER

Learn more about Fairfield Porter and the paintings he made in and around his homes. Check out the exhibition in person at the Parrish Art Museum and explore our website for more information about Porter on Artist Stories:

<http://parrishart.org/artist-stories/#/artists/8684590>

Housebound: Fairfield Porter and his Circle of Poets and Painters

August 7, 2020 - January 31, 2021



We would love to see what you made! To share, post your artwork on Instagram with the hashtag #ParrishHomeArtStudios