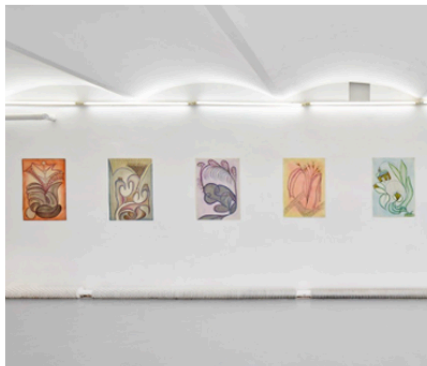
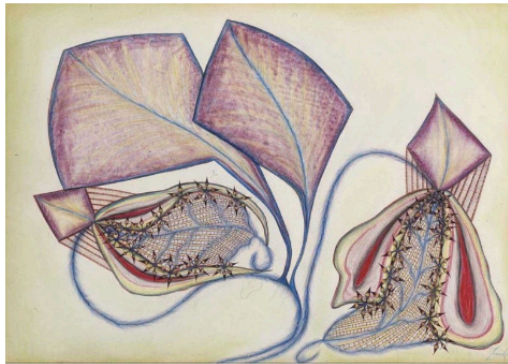


# WIDE RAINBOW LESSONS: Artist Anna Zemánkova

## ARTIST INTRO:

Anna Zemánkova (b.1908-1986) was a self-taught Czech artist. As a child she dreamed of being an artist, but instead became a dental assistant and then devoted herself to her home. Zemánkova fell into depression after having both her legs amputated due to diabetes but rediscovered her art practice mid-life (in her 50s) creating hundreds of whimsical plant-inspired or fantastic botanical drawings each day as a form of therapy. Today, and in her lifetime, Zemánkova is considered one of the world's most important figures of *art brut* or *outsider art*.

## ARTWORK:



## WORKSHOP:

*Let's take inspiration from the natural world and self-taught artist Anna Zemánková to create artworks using our imagination!*

1. Imagine your favorite flower, tree, or plant
2. Using only your memory draw that object from nature
3. How does your drawing represent the plant?
4. Now, think about a *new* flower, tree or plant that doesn't exist – what could you create? Draw whatever comes to mind
5. Get creative with color, shape, and collage to bring your plant to life
6. Give your plant a new name and meaning, then share your artwork with friends and family

## MATERIALS:

- Paper
- Colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue



**Anna Zemánková**  
**untitled, 1975**  
**paper collage, acrylic, colored pencil**  
**and ballpoint on paper**  
**34.65 x 24.41 in**



**“I grow  
flowers that  
don’t grow  
anywhere  
else”.**

**- Anna  
Zemánková**

**FOLLOW UP:**

What is the imagination?

Can art be therapy?

Can nature be therapy? How?

How do we use our imaginations when we make art?

How do you see the natural world around you?

Can you find art in nature? How? Where?

What new 'plant' did you create? Why?

What is a self-taught artist?

**Wide Rainbow is a 501c3 contemporary art after school program.**

**Providing access to art, artists, and arts education.**

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