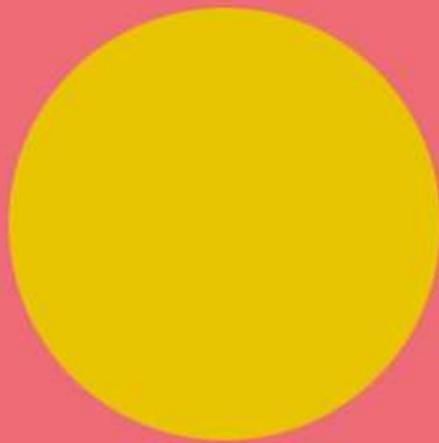


Georgia O'Keeffe

Artist 1887 - 1986



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Early Life

Georgia Totto O'Keeffe was born on 15th November 1887 in Wisconsin, USA.

She was one of seven children, and her mother encouraged Georgia's interest in art.

The landscape in Wisconsin was very important to Georgia, which became evident in her later work.

She studied at the Art Institute of Chicago and had her first gallery show in 1916.



Flowers

Georgia began experimenting with painting close up views of flowers. She used oil paints in vibrant, bold colours.

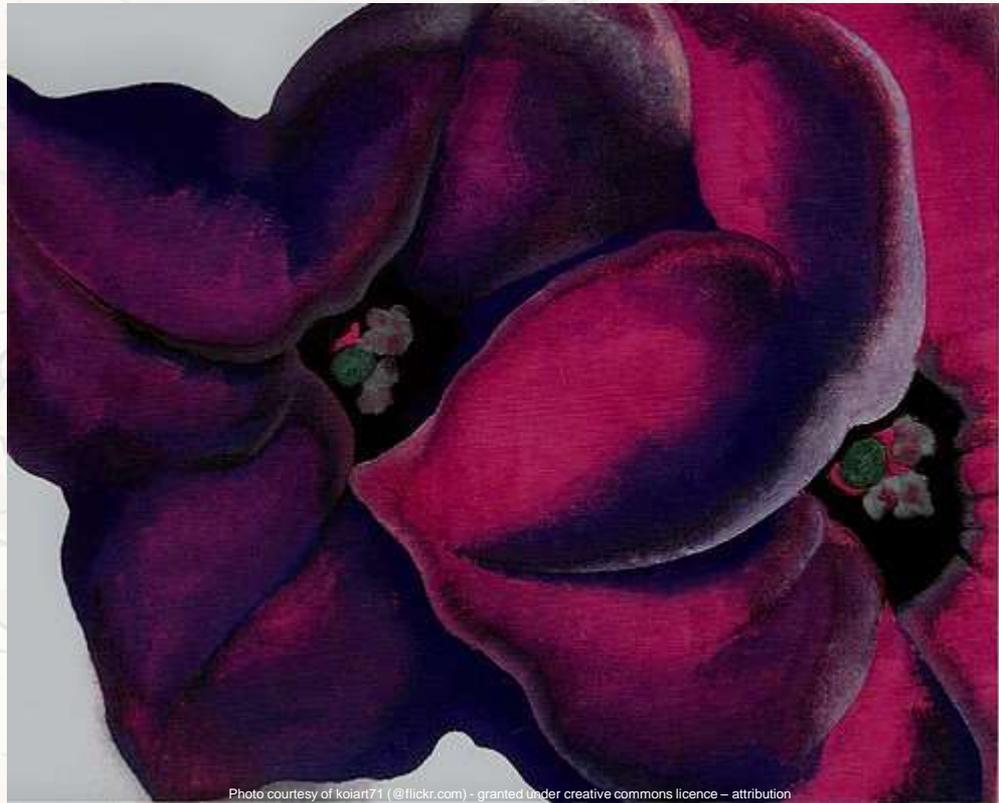


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Yellow Calla



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Oriental Poppies

Painting the flowers at such a close range makes the viewer see the object in a completely different way.



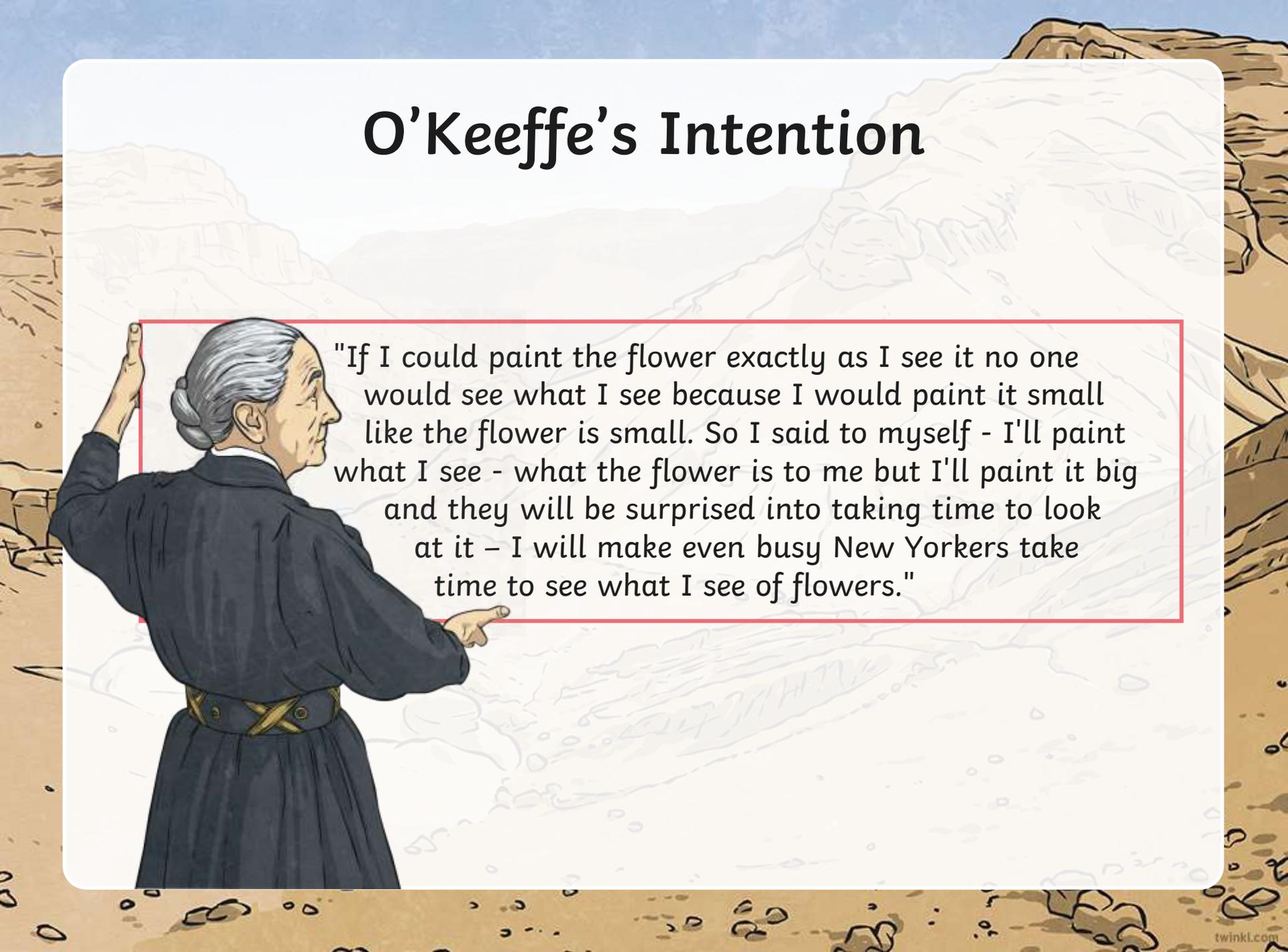
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Inside Red Canna

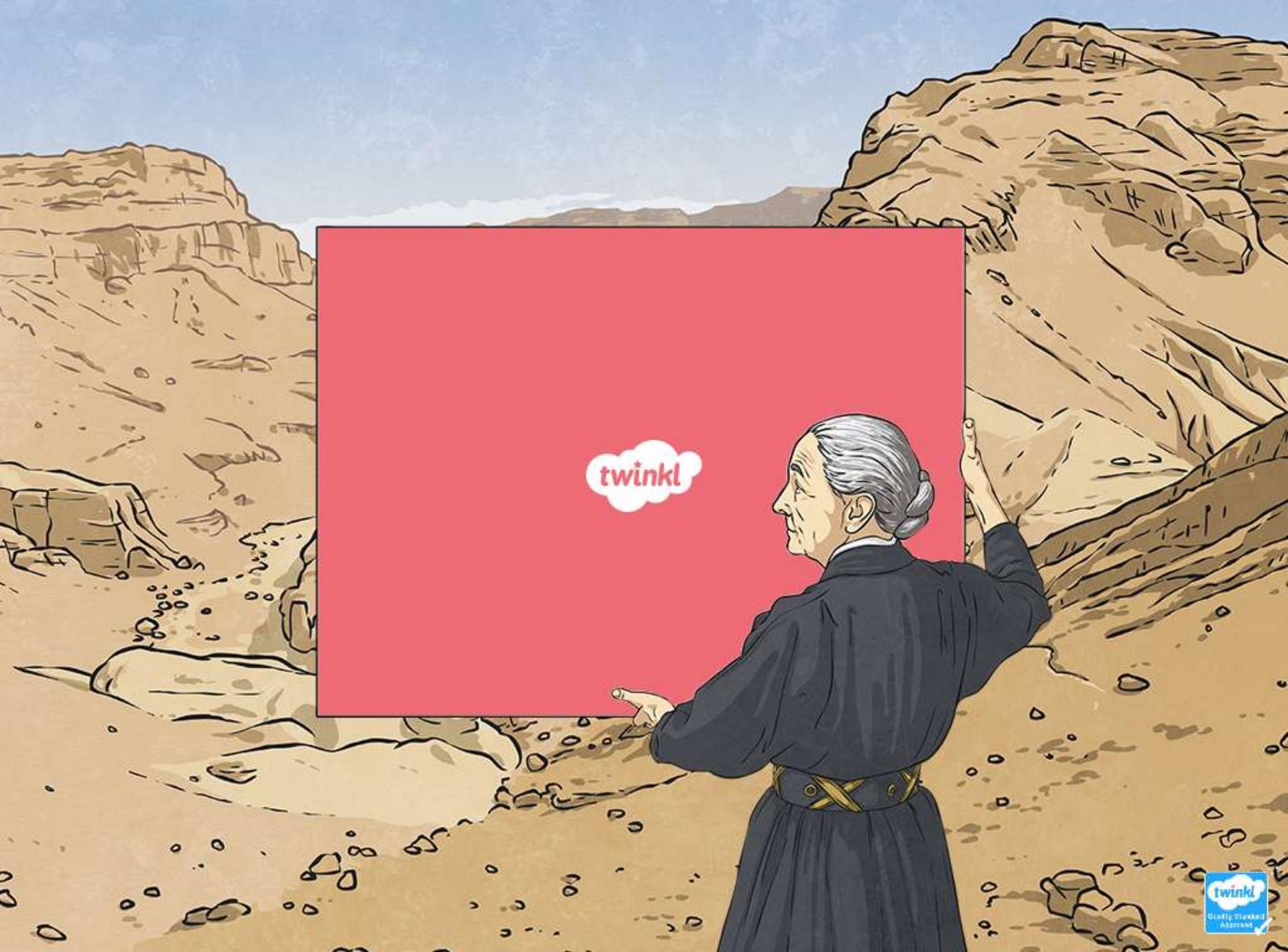
The vibrancy of colour used, and the simplified images of leaves and petals, resulted in dramatic and innovative paintings, exploring the idea of abstraction.



O'Keeffe's Intention

An illustration of an elderly woman with grey hair, wearing a dark blue dress with a yellow sash, standing in a desert landscape. She is pointing her right hand towards a large, faint, light-colored drawing of a flower that is superimposed on the background. The drawing is a sketch of a flower, possibly a desert flower, with a long stem and a large, rounded head. The woman's expression is one of contemplation or explanation. The background shows a desert with brown, rocky hills and a blue sky.

"If I could paint the flower exactly as I see it no one would see what I see because I would paint it small like the flower is small. So I said to myself - I'll paint what I see - what the flower is to me but I'll paint it big and they will be surprised into taking time to look at it - I will make even busy New Yorkers take time to see what I see of flowers."



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