Squiggle Scribble

Ages: 4 and up

Materials:
Several colors of crayons or colored pencils
1 sheet of blank paper
Squiggle Scribble: say that 5 times fast! We often think drawing must require intention, but some of the best artworks come about through a meditative approach. This exercise is designed to explore automatic drawing and relieve stress. Each line drawing will open up more opportunities for color mixing. Using a different dark color for each new line will help you keep each color field separate. For younger artists, this exercise will reinforce color mixing, older artists will enjoy the increasing complexity of the design with each new “squiggly” line. Adults should try too!

Start with a dark color crayon or color pencil. Draw a squiggly line that loops around a bit. You could imagine a piece of string that fell onto your paper, or just see where you crayon or pencil goes for a few seconds.

Choose one color and color in any enclosed areas that were created. Pick a new dark color crayon or pencil and draw a different squiggly line over the first.
Color the newly created enclosed areas with a new color. The two colors will mix to create a new color.

The more NEW lines you draw, the more opportunities for new colors! How far will you go?

Take it further:

Check out the artwork of Sonia Delaunay, a 20th century avant-garde artist who was the first living female artist to have a retrospective at the Louvre in Paris. She worked with ideas of geometric abstraction and spontaneity to create paintings, costumes, wall coverings and more.