

# Koi Fish •Mixed Media Painting •Lyndsey Rowland

The original prompt for this painting was inspired by zodiac symbolism. My zodiac is Pisces so I decided to paint a koi fish. Feel free to substitute the koi fish for your own zodiac sign!

## *materials list:*

- Watercolor Paint
- Acrylic Paint
- Crayons
- Paintbrushes
- Pencil

## *painting techniques:*

- Crayon (wax) resist
- Watercolor wet on wet



1. Start by sketching out a fish with pencil. Lighten your pencil lines with an eraser.
2. Outline your pencil with a crayon(s). By outlining the fish in crayon, you are creating a wax resist which will in fact, resist the watercolor in the next step, making it easier to stay in the lines with your paint.
3. Using a paintbrush, apply water to part of the fish (I started with the scales).
4. Using watercolor, choose a color to begin filling in part of the fish. The watercolor paint will begin to mix with the water on the paper, creating the wet on wet watercolor technique. The key here is to let the watercolor "do it's thing" and spread on its own.
5. Using the wet on wet technique learned in steps 3 and 4, choose 1 or more watercolors to cover the background.
6. Find some floral/nature inspiration. I found mine from the artist, Megan Wells. See more of her work here: <http://www.makewells.com>
7. Using acrylic paint begin to form the outlines of your flora. I like to use white and dark colors to draw attention to details in the flowers.
8. To finish up my designs I also like to use acrylic paint to add abstract elements like dots, line work, shapes, drips, etc.



Floral/Nature Artist: Megan Wells  
<http://www.makewells.com>