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INTRODUCTION Hundertwasser Houses

FRIEDRICH HUNDERTV

Friedensreich Hundertwasser (December 15th 1928 – February 19th 2000) was an Austrian painter, architect, and ecologist. Although his mother was Jewish he was baptized a Catholic in 1935, which saved his life. In contrast to his grandmother and 69 other relatives, he and his mother survived the period of Nazi occupation in Austria.



And perhaps this is why he felt at home both nowhere and everywhere in the world. He was a restless traveler who was constantly on the move worldwide. He spoke many languages: German, English, French, Italian, Japanese, Russian, Czech, and some Arabic.

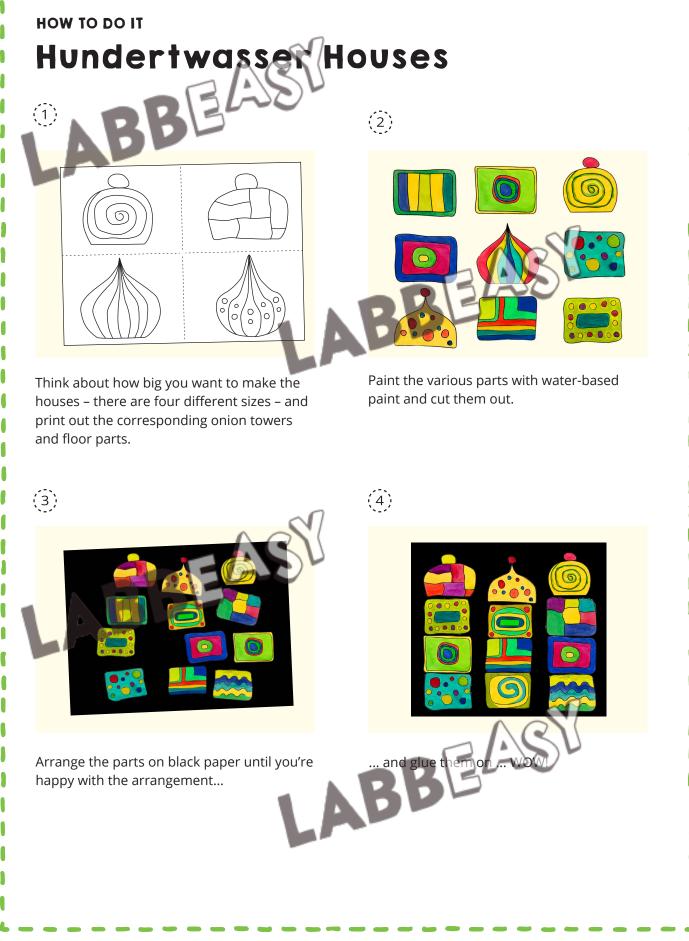
At the age of seven his art teachers had already remarked upon his "extraordinary sense of shape and color". He discovered his passion for spirals very early on – a motif you see again and again in his pictures.

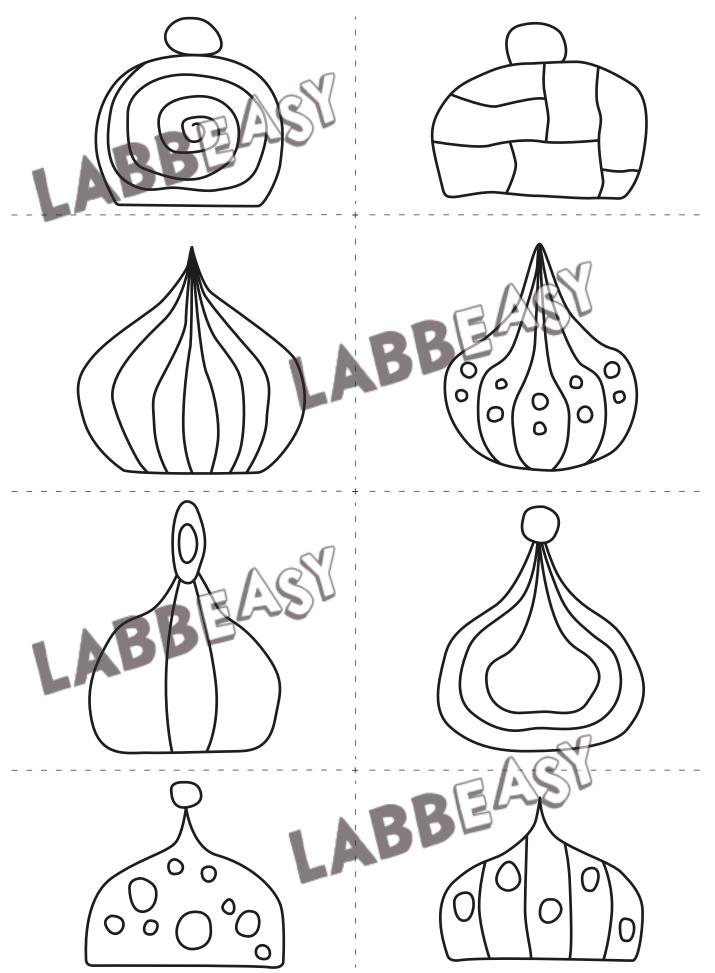
His architecture also displays a notable lack of corners, edges, and straight lines and instead colorful facades, curves, onion-shaped, domed towers, and green rooftops. His declared goal was to design architecture in harmony with nature and people. He once critically observed: "We live in Paradise but all we do is destroy it".

There's loads for kids to discover in his houses. The floors can be slanting or wavy and there are many-colored pillars, onion-shaped domes, and irregular facades with curvy lines.

The templates in this material are modeled on the famous picture 'Aerobic Church' (1981) by Hundertwasser. With them you can 'build' an endless amount of colorful Hundertwasser houses in four different sizes. For this purpose, various onion dome and floor parts are painted with poster or tempera paints, cut out, and glued together to form imaginative Hundertwasser structures. They're awesome for group works. WOW! LABBÉ

Micha Labbé





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