

I was drawn to Koop's work for two specific reasons:

- 1) She fills large canvases with very limited colour palette, with beautiful effect! I am attracted to monochromatic colour schemes but have a long way to go to make them more effective and engaging. Koop's works are not monochromatic but she narrows down to two, at most three colours, then works the values for deeply interesting compositions, often quite low key values except for a few small areas of high-key intensity.
- 2) Her seamless and very gradual transition in value using acrylic on canvas. This is a bugbear for me, I struggle to blend uniformly and tend to end up with stripes and swirls of one value into the next. Her works are an inspiration and a model.

What have I learned from looking into Koop's work, how will I apply it?:

- Consider a long slow transition of single colour across large portion of canvas
- Do more trials with retardant and/or other acrylic mediums for blending
- Subject matter: many of her works are landscapes, simplified and abstracted, presented with large fields of colour. I'm inspired to try a blend of realism and abstraction in this unit 3 painting. It was helpful to notice that Koop's landscapes most often emerge from her exploration of a deeply personal story.

Next steps: brainstorm and test out techniques for my own significant landscape.



Wanda Koop, *Mirror Lake*, 2020, acrylic on canvas, 84 x 60 in (213.4 x 152.4 cm)

SOURCE: <https://www.nightgallery.ca/artists/wanda-koop>