

**BLANTON**

**ART WHERE YOU ARE STUDIO**



**Tania Bruguera: Tea Bag Print**



## MATERIALS

- Watercolor paper
- Fruit tea bags
- Spray bottle filled with water
- Paper towels

# INSTRUCTIONS

## Step 1: Reflect

As I look closely at *Poetic Justice* by Tania Bruguera, I'm curious about what the canvas might look like, behind all those tea bags. If we were able to lift up and remove the bags, what marks might they have left behind?

## Step 2: Arrange

Begin laying out your tea bags in the desired composition on your watercolor paper. Feel free to place the bags in any pattern, even overlapping them if you like. You can push the tea down to the bottom, top, or sides of the bag, creating more defined shapes with the tea leaves. Pushing the tea to the corners gives you a triangle shape which makes a really interesting geometric print in the end.

## Step 3: Spray

When you're happy with your arrangement, begin lightly spraying your tea bags down with the water. This step will take a few minutes as your goal here is to saturate the bag well enough that the water will pass through the back of the tea bag and onto the watercolor paper. As you spray, firmly press down on each bag to help push the water through the tea leaves.

## Step 4: Reveal

After 30 minutes to an hour, carefully lift the bags from the paper and place them onto your paper towel. You can also experiment with leaving your tea bags to dry completely overnight before removing them from the watercolor paper. The final outcome of your print will be determined by how little or how much water you used and for how long you let your tea bags lay on the paper.

There you have it – your own Tania Bruguera-inspired work of art! What will you title your tea print?

Share what you made and tag @blantonmuseum with #ArtWhereYouAre and visit [blantonmuseum.org/museumfromhome](https://blantonmuseum.org/museumfromhome) for more resources.

## LEARN MORE

### Read

- [\*Poetic Justice\* in the Blanton Collection](#)
- [Art21: Tania Bruguera](#)
- [Portfolio: The Art and Activism of Tania Bruguera](#)

### Watch

- [TateShots: Ask the Artist Questions for Tania Bruguera](#)
- [Artist Profile: Tania Bruguera on her Sociopolitical Art Practice](#)
- [Tate: The Art of Social Change – Talking Point](#)

### Reflect

**What are the most successful parts of your work?**

**Is there anything about your tea print that you now think you should have done differently? If so, what and why?**

**How would you describe your work of art to a person who couldn't see it?**