





National Gallery of Art, DC



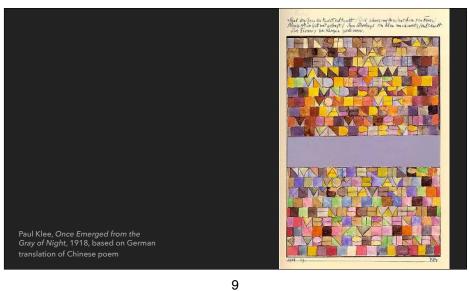


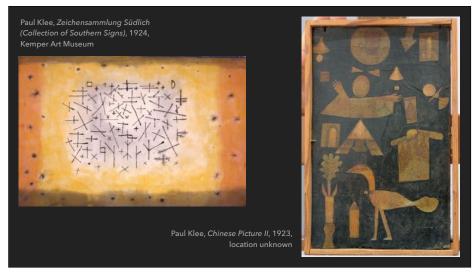
Inscriptions, probably 17th c., Turkey, wool, 64 x 41 in, Met Museum

Clay Tablet inscribed with Linear B script, 1450-1375 BCE, found at Knossos, British Museum



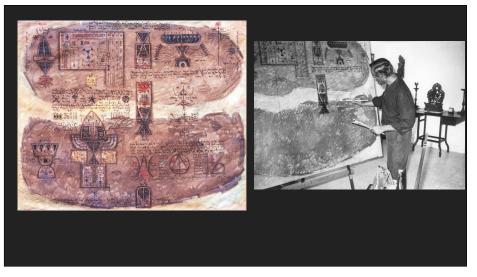
Paul Klee, *Legend of the Nile*, 1937, pastel on cotton on burlap, 69 x 61 cm,

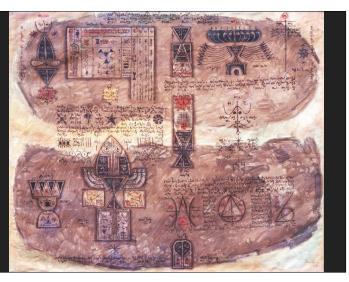




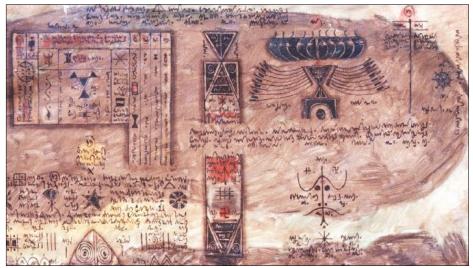




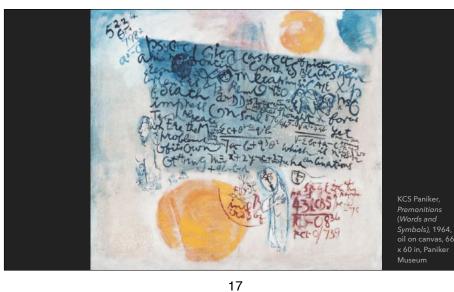


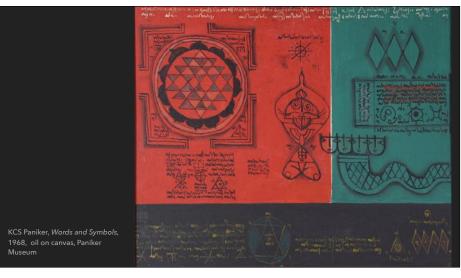


KCS Paniker, Words and Symbols, 1968, oil on canvas, 66 x 49 in





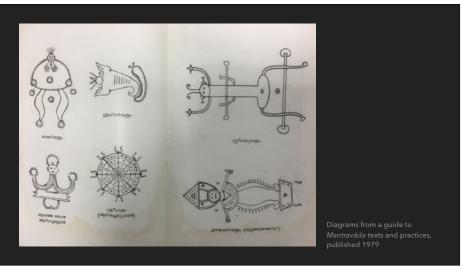


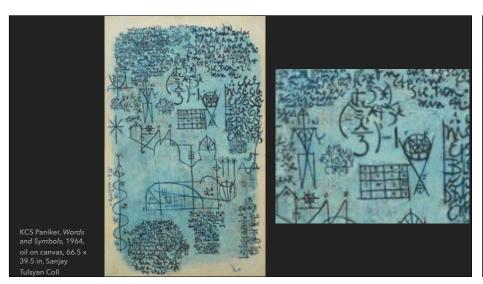


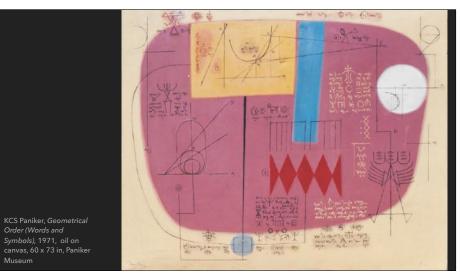














I limited my color scheme to somber tones ... In the next step I wrote letters and words that did not mean a thing. Then came a time when I felt I had to break down the bone of the letter, observing the space within a letter and the space between a letter and the other on the line. I wanted to see what was there and find out their basic components and origins. There the Pandora's box opened up wide before my eyes ... in place of those broken-up letters I discovered animal and plant forms, sounds, human images, and what looked like skeletons with masked faces.

Ibrahim El Salahi in 1993

lbrahim El-Salahi, *The Prayer*, 1962, oil on masonite, 61.3×44.5 cm, University of Bayreuth coll.







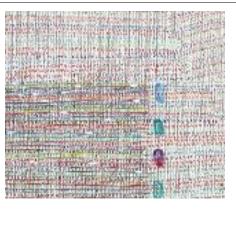
Ibrahim El-Salahi, The Donkey I Remember in my Dreams, early 1960s

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Siah Armajani (Iran/US), Shirt #1, 1958, Met



Charles Hossain Zenderoudi, Twelve Fingers, 1977, acrylic on canvas









Charles Hossain Zenderoudi, K+L+32+H+4. Mon père et moi (My Father and I), 1962, 89 x 58 5/8", felt tip pen and colored ink on paper mounted on board, MoMA





