FRANCISCO DA COSTA MAYA

METAMORPHOSIS

OF PEACE

ACTIVITY BOOKLET FOR CHILDREN

BY

ALISON AUNE
Come and **experience** the magical paintings of Francisco Da Costa Maya.

This booklet is a guide to help you **explore** his colorful work and to **discover** for yourself the many possible **meanings** and **stories** in his paintings.

Welcome to a dream world of pink birds, checkerboard landscapes, and dazzling purple skies!
Meet the Artist

Francisco Da Costa Maya was born in 1951 in Lisbon, Portugal. He was one of 13 children. As a child, he loved art and learned from his uncle, Francisco Maya. In school the teachers encouraged him to paint. As a teenager he started out in art school but left to join the military. However, he could not be a soldier. He did not want to harm any living thing. Because of this he had to leave his home country. Francisco followed his dream to be an artist and devotes his life to

peace, love, and justice.

First he lived in Paris, France and then he settled in Sweden where he lives today as an artist, father, and grandfather.
Francisco **abstracts** and **simplifies** shapes. His paintings have been **surrealist** because he creates imaginary worlds. He uses **geometric** shapes to make colorful compositions.

Add **your own** colors, lines, and shapes to fill the land and sky with **visual harmony**.
Have you ever seen animal shapes in the clouds? Have you dreamed you were flying? Add floating shapes to this sky of freedom.

**ART TIP:**

Gently color in the shapes and try to **blend** the colors so that they **Glow**.
Francisco often uses color symbolically.
Red is love. Blue is freedom. Yellow is justice.

This painting is about the battle between good and evil.
The horse and rider are lifting up from darkness.
They are merging into the yellow bird of justice.
This painting shows a Metamorphosis of Peace.