

Georgia O’Keeffe worksheet

Life span: 1890 – 1980 Born in Sun Prairie, Wisconsin large family went to boarding school
Knew she wanted to be an artist at age 12

First job: teacher influenced by: Arthur Dow, Alan Bement, William Merritt Chase

Places she lived throughout her life: NYC, Columbia, NY, Lake George, NY, Texas, New Mexico,
South Carolina, Chicago, Illinois

Subject matter in her work: bones, flowers, crosses, clouds, jack-in-a-pulpit, buildings, NYC, landscapes,
churches

Paintings done in a series: bones, jack-in-a-pulpit, clouds, churches

Style: Abstract Media: charcoal, oil paint, watercolor Type of color: bright

Married to Alfred Stieglitz who was: Father of Modern Photography, Patron of the Arts, owned a gallery
Made the most complete portrait of a O’Keeffe

Artists who worked with Stieglitz and O’Keeffe: Dove, Marin Hartley, DeMuth, Strand

In 1915 she stopped working because everything she had painted was done for someone else, not for her. So she put everything away and started over. She only worked in black and white until she felt she had to have color.

Contrasts in the personalities of O’Keeffe and Stieglitz:

Stieglitz	O’Keeffe
Loved lots of people around him	Liked to be alone
Liked living in the city	preferred the country
Photographer	painter

Great American Painting: piece with skull and red, white and blue in the background.

Symbolism in her paintings: people saw sexual symbols in the flowers and death in her bones.
She said she just enjoyed the shapes.