

Sculpture

ASSEMBLAGE

The Additive Process in Creating 3-Dimensional Form

What is assemblage?

- **Assemblage** is an artistic process in which a 3D composition is made from putting together **found objects**.
- The origin of the word can be traced back to the early 1950s, when Jean Dubuffet created a series of collages of butterfly wings, which he titled *assemblages d'empreintes*.



Found Object Sculpture

- A **found object**, in an artistic sense, indicates the use of an object which has not been designed for an artistic purpose, but which exists for another purpose already.



Bowafridgeaphone
made by [Iner Souster](#)

JOHANN DIETER WASSMANN (JEFF WASSMANN), *VORWARTS! (GO FORWARD!)*, 1897 (2003).



RAOUL HAUSMANN, *MECHANICAL HEAD [THE SPIRIT OF OUR AGE]*, ASSEMBLAGE CIRCA 1920.



Historical Assemblage Artists

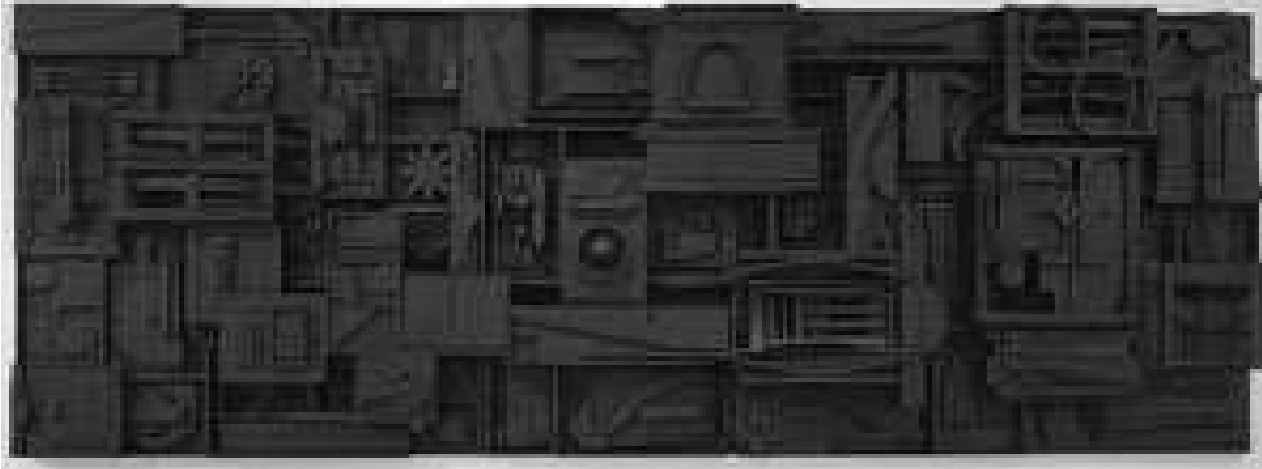
HOMEWORK:

Pick ONE from below and write/draw 5 Facts about them in your sketchbook!

- Louise Nevelson
- Alexander Calder
- Robert Rauschenberg
- Joseph Cornell

Louise Nevelson

[Louise Nevelson](#) (1899–1988), an American artist, is known for her abstract expressionist “boxes” grouped together to form a new creation. She used found objects or everyday discarded things in her “assemblages” or assemblies, one of which was three stories high.



['Sky_Cathedral',_painted_wood_by_Louise_Nevelson,_1982](#)

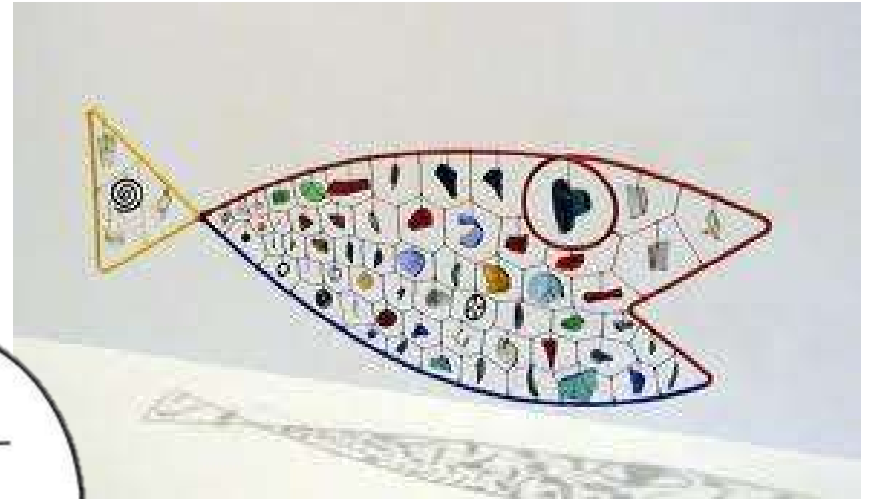


['Night_Leaf',_plexiglas_sculpture_by_Louise_Nevelson_1969](#)

Alexander Calder

Alexander Calder

(July 22, 1898 –
November 11, 1976)
was an American
sculptor and artist
most famous for
inventing the
mobile.



Robert Rauschenberg

Robert Rauschenberg
(1925–2008), painter and collagist known for his mixed media works during six decades.

Robert Rauschenberg , *Untitled*, ca. 1954, Freestanding combine: oil, pencil, crayon, paper, canvas, fabric, newspaper, photographs, wood, glass, mirror, tin, cork and found painting with pair of painted leather shoes, dried grass, and Dominique hen mounted on wood structure on five casters; 86 1/2 x 37 x 26 1/4 in. The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles, The Panza Collection



Robert Rauschenberg - 'Canyon', 1959, oil, house paint, pencil, paper, fabric, metal, buttons, nails, cardboard, printed paper, photographs, wood, paint tubes, mirror string, pillow & bald eagle on canvas National Gallery of Art



Robert Rauschenberg , *Monogram*, 1955
Freestanding combine: oil, paper, fabric, printed paper, printed reproductions, metal, wood, rubber shoe heel, and tennis ball on canvas, with oil on Angora goat and rubber tire, on wood platform mounted on four casters; 42 x 63 1/4 x 64 1/2 in.

JOSEPH CORNELL

[Joseph Cornell](#). Cornell (1903–1972), who lived in New York City, is known for his delicate boxes.

Many of his boxes, such as the famous Medici Slot Machine boxes, are interactive and are meant to be handled.



Contemporary Assemblage Artists:

HOMEWORK:

Pick ONE from below and write/draw 5 Facts about them in your sketchbook!

Contemporary Artists:

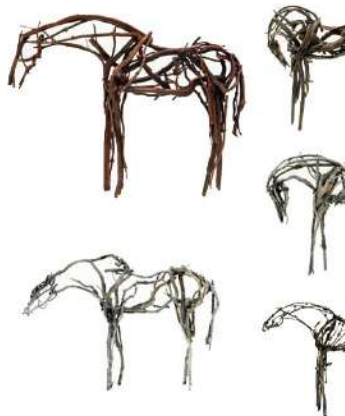
- David Smith
- Deborah Butterfield
- Ewa Pachucka
- Jackie Winsor
- Les Kossatz

David Smith



American Abstract Expressionist Sculptor.
Steel Abstract Geometric Sculptures

Deborah Butterfield



Ewa Pachucka



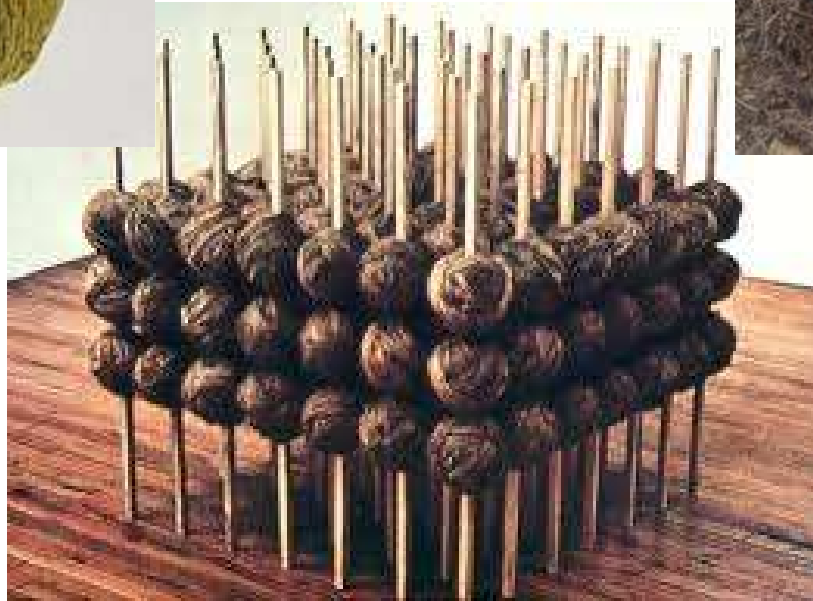
Polish
Made from Hemp & Wire
Prefers "soft" sculptures – textiles.

Jackie Winsor



Considered a Minimalist artist.

Also, considered "anti-form" – using spheres and cubes most often.



Les Kossatz



ASSIGNMENTS

IN YOUR SKETCHBOOK:

- Identify a “favorite” sculptor and develop a journal page on the artist. (Can be historical or contemporary)
- Draw 3-5 sketches of sculpture designs.
(Sketches should take up ½ page each with color!)

Online resources

- <http://www.artchive.com/artchive/C/cornell.html>
- http://edu.warhol.org/pdf/cornell_handout.pdf
- <http://web.archive.org/web/20070124022519/members.aol.com/mindwebart2/cornellpage2.htm>
- http://www.artic.edu/aic/education/trc/Cornell_Poster_Packe.pdf
- <http://altpick.com/spot/binkley/index.php>
- http://www.artisticrevolutions.com/AR_gallery_artboxes.html
- www.louisenevelsonfoundation.org
- www.understandingduchamp.com
- www.calder.org

ESSENTIAL QUESTION

- How does the additive process of construction help you express your own personal ideas in creating a 3-Dimensional form?
- *"My boxes are life's experiences aesthetically expressed." —Joseph Cornell*

OTHER THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Who decides what “good” sculpture is and how can that opinion be proven?
- Can you find your own culture and personal experiences in the sculpture of other cultures and time?
- Where can you find inspiration for your own sculpture outside of the art class?
- How do you use the Elements of Art and the Principles of Design as a visual language in sculpture?
- How do you express meaning through sculpture?

PROJECT

PROJECT!!!

- Create a Louis Nevelson inspired box.
- This box should be based around a theme of personal or cultural significance.
- Should contain **found objects** and at **least 10 different items**.
(Remember, items that are not TOO heavy and that will take spray paint well.)