

Modern Sculpture



Constantin Brancusi

He was a Romanian-born sculptor who is widely regarded as one of the founding figures of modern sculpture. He broke sharply with the **realist tradition**, making **abstract sculptures**, chiefly in metal and stone, of great geometric simplicity.

Constantin Brancusi, *The Kiss*, 1912. Limestone.

Surreal Sculpture Meret Oppenheim

She was a German-born Swiss **Surrealist** artist and photographer.



Shape:

Effect:



Meret Oppenheim, *Object, (Luncheon in Fur)* 1936, Fur-covered Cup, Saucer & Spoon.

2. Describe how the shape of Umberto Boccioni's *Unique Forms of Continuity in Space* sculpture suggests dynamism and an urge towards progress? (1)

Futurist Sculpture Umberto Boccioni

He was an Italian painter and sculptor who like other **Futurists**, his work centered on the portrayal of movement (dynamism), speed, and technology.



Umberto Boccioni, *Unique Forms of Continuity in Space*, Bronze, 1913.



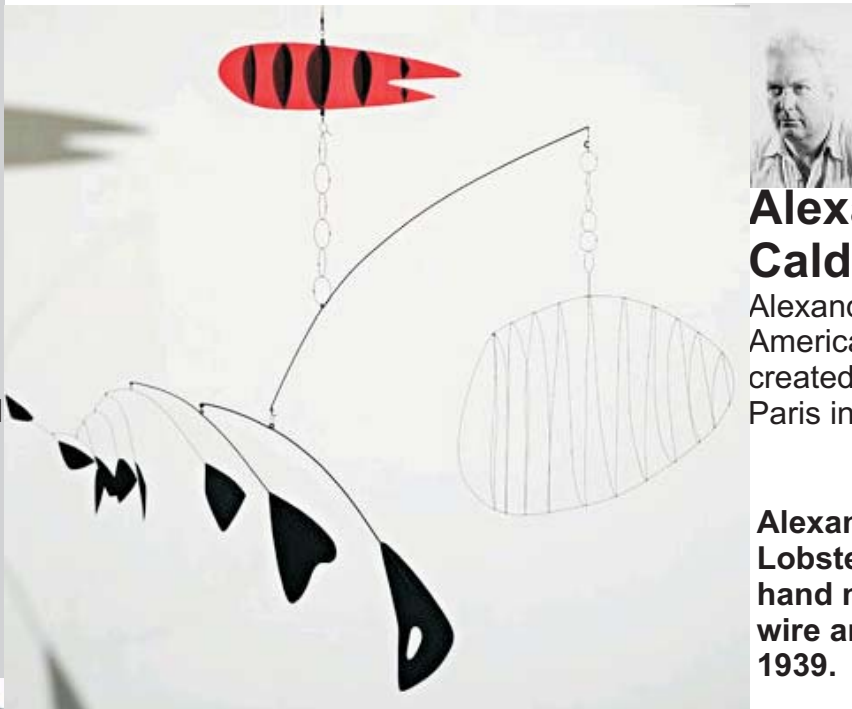
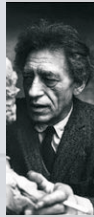
3. Look at Meret Oppenheim's *Object (Luncheon in Fur)* from 1936. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from it and why? (2)

Alberto Giacometti

He was a Swiss sculptor, painter, and **Surrealist** who is known for his elongated sculptures. His haunting, anguished images have been described as perfect expressions of existentialist pessimism.



Alberto Giacometti. Tall Figure, 1947, Bronze.



Alexander Calder

Alexander Calder was an American sculptor who created the mobile in Paris in the early 1930s.

Alexander Calder, Lobster Trap & Fish Tail, hand mobile, painted steel wire and sheer aluminum, 1939.

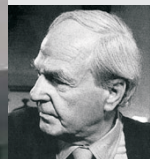
4. Make a sketch outline of the form of Alberto Giacometti's Tall Figure sculpture from 1947. What mood/feeling do you get from it and why? (2)

mood/feeling:

5. Look at Calder's Lobster Trap & Fish Tail mobile. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from it and why? (2)

mood/feeling:

why:



Henry Moore

He was a British sculptor whose works, mostly semiabstract human figures, are characterized by smooth organic forms. Moore was asked to design a statue that would complement the flowing lines of City Hall. The Archer weighs 2.5 tones!

Henry Moore, The Archer, Bronze, Toronto, 1966.

6. How does the shape of Henry Moore's The Archer help convey a sense of movement? (1)

Modern Sculpture

Pop Art Sculpture



Claes Oldenburg

He is a Swedish born American sculptor known for his "soft sculptures." The fries are transformed into a satirical emblem of the basest level of American culture greasy fast food.

Claes Oldenburg, Shoestring Potatoes Falling From Bag. 1966.



Assemblage Sculpture

Louise Nevelson

She painted everything a flat black, white or gold colour, she unified the many different parts of her work. Her sculptural style of **assemblage** is a kind of three-dimensional collage.



Installation Sculpture

Judy Chicago

Her works is always involved with advancing the cause of **women's rights**. Her **site-specific installation** sculpture is a gigantic triangular arrangement of place settings called **The Dinner Party**. Each space is designed to represent one great women in history.



Judy Chicago, The Dinner Party, 1979. Ceramic with hand woven cloth, each side about 25 meters long.

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NAME: _____

1. What kind of social commentary is Pop artist Claes Oldenburg creating in his Shoestring Potatoes Falling From Bag sculpture? (1)

2. How has Louise Nevelson unified the various forms and shapes in her Royal Tide I, gilded wood sculpture? (1)

3. Look at Judy Chicago's The Dinner Party sculpture from 1979 and describe how the artist unifies the various different place settings in the piece? (1)

Environmental Sculpture

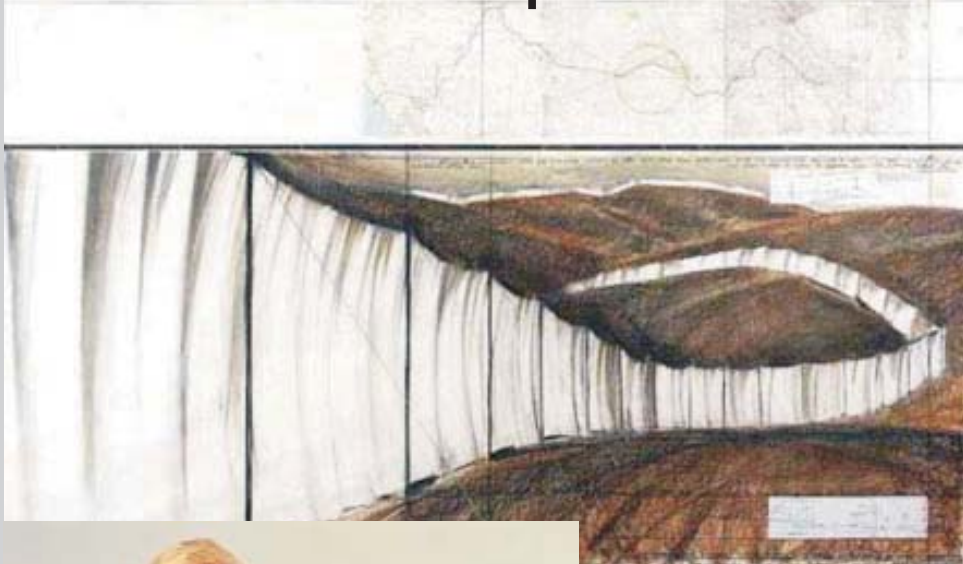


Christo

Bulgarian-born American sculptor and **environmental artist** best known for wrapping objects, especially large-scale items such as whole buildings, in fabric.

Running Fence began as a veiled fence, made from steel posts and steel cables, running through the landscape and leading into the sea. The fence was to be 5.5 m high and 40 km long.

Christo, Running Fence, Project for Sonoma County & Marin County, CA, 1976, collage.



4. Why is Christo's Running Fence Project for Sonoma County & Marin County considered an environmental sculpture? (1)

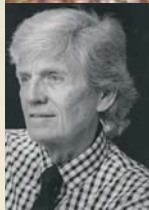


Photo-Realistic Sculpture

Duane Hanson

He is an American sculptor who produces life-sized realistic figures. He creates his figures from polyester resin and uses items of real clothing. His work has been praised by some for its underlying humanity or its implied satire and criticized by others for its brand of deadpan dullness.

Duane Hanson, Supermarket Lady, 1969-70.

5. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from looking at Duane Hanson's Supermarket Lady sculpture and why? (2)

6. What comment do you think Duane Hanson is making in his fiberglass life size sculpture Supermarket lady from 1970 on the American way life of life? (1)

7. From this file select one piece of modern sculpture that you think is the most artistically successful and explain why. (2)