



# ABC

*Art by the Letter*

**Brandi Breslin**

**Tami Wroath**



Harn Museum of Art  
University of Florida

ABC

HIJ



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Art by the Letter

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art  
University of Florida, Gainesville

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## Front Cover Images (clockwise):

(detail) Maggie Taylor, American, b. 1961  
*I'm grown up now.*, 2006, pigment inkjet print  
22 x 22 in. (55.9 x 55.9 cm), gift of Jerry Uelsmann  
and Maggie Taylor, 2012.22.6

Unidentified Indian Artist, *Hanuman Mask*  
20th century, wood, pigment, 14 ½ x 11 ½ x 6 ½ in.  
(36.8 x 29.2 x 16.5 cm), gift of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas  
J. Needham, 1987.1.59

(detail) Qi Baishi, Chinese, 1864 - 1957  
*Morning Glory, Corn and Grasshopper*, 1949  
Ink and color on paper, with hanger: 6 ft. 11 ½ in.  
x 21 ¾ in. (212.1 x 55.2 cm), museum purchase,  
funds provided by the Kathleen M. Axline  
Acquisition Endowment, 2001.9

(detail) Gustavo Montoya, Mexican, 1905 - 2003  
*Niña en amarillo (Girl in Yellow)*, c. 1950s, oil on canvas  
21 7/8 x 17 7/8 in. (55.6 x 45.4 cm), museum purchase,  
funds provided by friends of the Harn Museum  
of Art, 2008.40.7

## Back Cover Image:

Unidentified Kuba Artist, Democratic Republic of Congo  
*Zulu Hat*, 20th century, fabric, glass beads, cowrie shells,  
cuprous metal, 5 ¼ x 7 x 7 in. (13.3 x 17.8 x 17.8 cm)  
Gift of Rod McGalliard, 2003.40.8

The printing of this book is generously  
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*Art by the Letter*

**Brandi Breslin**

*Design by*  
**Tami Wroath**

Harn Museum of Art, University of Florida, Gainesville





## INTRODUCTION

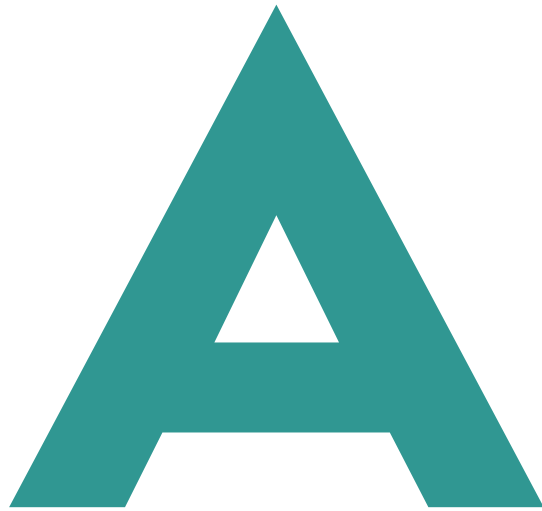
Imagine strolling through an art museum with your family, talking about the beautiful, unusual and curious things you see. This book brings the art museum to you, as an alphabet picture book to read aloud and discuss together. Each letter of the alphabet is illustrated with stunning artwork from the Harn Museum of Art, so children can learn their ABCs while also learning the language of art.

The University of Florida's Harn Museum of Art is a dynamic leader among public university art museums offering active engagement with the visual arts in a welcoming environment for diverse audiences. *ABC: Art by the Letter* was produced to accompany an exhibition by the same title, on view at the Harn Museum of Art from December 12, 2017 through June 3, 2018. Both the book and the exhibition represent a long and growing commitment by the museum to early childhood learning. Since 2003, the Harn Museum has offered Tot Time, an engaging gallery and art-making program for children ages 2-5 and their caregivers. In 2017, inspired by the success of Tot Time and the children's enthusiasm for art, the Harn created a school-based early learning program to support children's visual and literacy skills. In 2018, the museum will reach approximately 500 preschool and kindergarten children and their families through Early Learning at the Harn.

Like many museum projects, this book would not have been possible without the generosity of a donor. We are grateful for the support of Jamie Betz and his gift in honor of his late wife, Dr. Eva A. Dimitrov. This book is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Dimitrov, beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother, healer and friend. May her commitment to humbly serve others live on through those who knew and loved her. It is wonderful that her great legacy of care and giving to others can be extended into the future to so many children and families through the enjoyment of this book.

**Brandi Breslin**

*Coordinator of Gallery Interpretation  
and School & Educator Programs*



**A is for alligator.**

*An alligator swims through yellow water.*

*What parts of the alligator can you see,  
and what parts are under water?*

Hiram Williams, American, 1917 - 2003, *Swimming Gator*, 1993  
Mixed media on canvas, 47 ½ x 25 ½ in. (120.7 x 64.8 cm)  
Gift of Hiram and Avonell Williams, 1993.5.39





# B

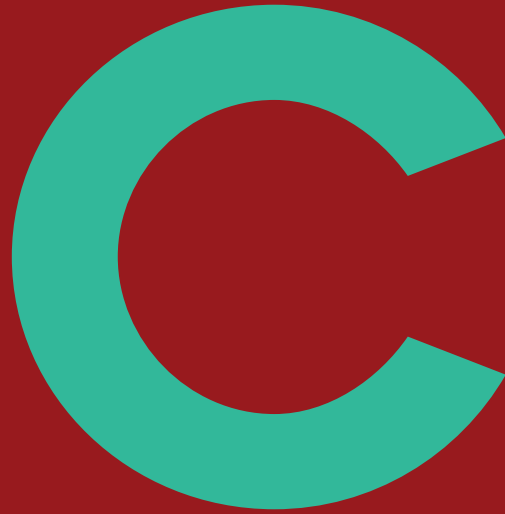
**B is for baby.**

*This picture is not in color because  
it was made over 100 years ago, before  
the invention of color photography.*

*Can you imagine what color  
dress the baby is wearing?*

Gertrude Käsebier, American, 1852 - 1934, *Gertrude O'Malley and her Son Charles on the Porch*, 1900  
Platinum print, 8 1/8 x 5 in. (20.6 x 12.7 cm)  
Museum purchase with funds provided by the David A. Cofrin Art Acquisition Endowment, 2007.23





**C is for car.**

*This painting shows a busy city street at night.*

*Where is the light coming from on this street?*

Yvonne Jacquette, American, b. 1934, *Tokyo Street with Pachinko Parlor II*, 1985  
Oil on canvas, 7 ft. 2 ½ in. x 55 ¼ in. (219.7 x 140.3 cm)  
Museum purchase, gift of Mary Ann P. Cofrin, 2003.12.2  
© Courtesy of the artist and DC Moore Gallery, New York







A large, bold, orange letter 'D' is centered at the top of the page. The letter is a simple, sans-serif font with a thick stroke.

**D is for dance.**

*A family celebrates with dance.*

*How do you feel when you move to music?*

Mildred Rackley, American, 1906 - 1992, *La Jota*, 1935-1943

Color woodcut, 9 1/16 x 12 1/16 in. (23 x 30.6 cm)

Gift of Dr. and Mrs. Corbin S. Carnell, in memory of E. Muriel Adams, 1992.11.123





**E is for elbow.**

*A girl has a wonderful adventure.*

*Is this a miniature house or a giant girl?*

(detail) Maggie Taylor, American, b. 1961, *I'm grown up now.*, 2006  
Pigment inkjet print, 22 x 22 in. (55.9 x 55.9 cm)

Gift of Jerry Uelsmann and Maggie Taylor, image courtesy Maggie Taylor, 2012.22.6





A large, bold, teal-colored letter 'F' is centered on the page. The letter is composed of solid teal blocks, with a vertical stem on the left and two horizontal bars extending to the right. The top bar is slightly longer than the middle bar.

**F is for figure.**

*These sculptures all show the human body.*

*How are they the same, and how  
are they different?*





Clockwise

1) Louise Nevelson,  
*Untitled*, c. 1940  
Bronze (with wooden  
base), 12 x 8 x 9 ½ in.  
(30.5 x 20.3 x 24.1 cm)  
Gift of Dr. and Mrs.  
David A. Cofrin, 2003.9  
© 2018 Estate of Louise  
Nevelson / Artists Rights  
Society (ARS), New York

2) Unidentified  
Mayan Artist,  
Mexico, Campeche  
*Seated Regal Female Figure*  
Pre-Columbian, Late  
Classical, 550-830 C.E.  
Ceramic with blue  
and white pigment  
7 x 5 ¼ x 3 ¾ in.  
(17.8 x 13.3 x 9.5 cm)  
Gift of Lawrence J.  
Cassard, M.D., 1989.11.1

3) Unidentified Chinese  
Artist (1644 - 1911)  
*Seated Guanyin with  
Child Attendant*  
19th century  
Glazed porcelain  
9 ⅞ x 4 ½ x 3 in.  
(23.2 x 11.4 x 7.6 cm)  
Museum purchase by  
exchange, gift of Mr.  
and Mrs. Fred W. Barber  
2005.12

4) Unidentified  
Bembe Artist, Democratic  
Republic of Congo  
*Male Ancestral Figure*  
20th century, wood, shell  
7 ⅞ x 2 ¾ x 2 ⅞ in.  
(20 x 7 x 5.4 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds  
provided by museum  
visitors, 1989.19



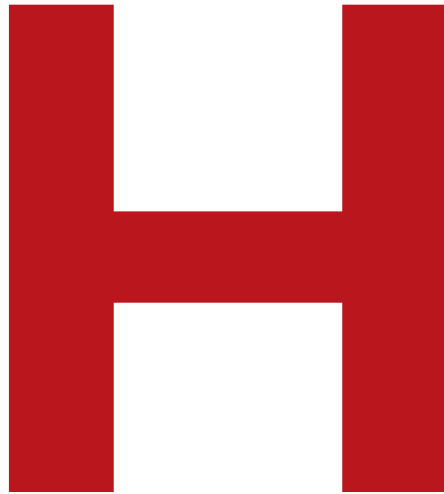
**G is for grasshopper.**

*A garden wakes up.*

*What will the grasshopper do next?*

(detail) Qi Baishi, Chinese, 1864 - 1957, *Morning Glory, Corn and Grasshopper*, 1949  
Ink and color on paper, with hanger: 6 ft. 11 ½ in. x 21 ¾ in. (212.1 x 55.2 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds provided by the Kathleen M. Axline Acquisition Endowment, 2001.9





**H is for horse.**

*This horse was made from metal that  
was once part of a tractor.*

*Where do you find both horses and tractors?*

Deborah Butterfield, American, b. 1949, *Rory*, 1992  
Painted steel, 6 ft. 7 in. x 11 ft. 5 in. x 28 in. (200.7 x 348 x 71.1 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds provided by the Caroline Julier and James G. Richardson Acquisition Fund and gift of S.F.I., 1998.4  
Art © Deborah Butterfield / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY







**I is for insect.**

*To become butterflies, these insects change form.*

*How do you change as you grow?*

Maria Sibylla Merian, German, 1647 - 1717, Plate 8 from *Metamorphosis Insectorium Surinamensium*, 1705  
Engraving, hand colored, 18 ½ x 13 ¼ in. (46.99 x 34.93 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds provided by Kevin and Margaret Harrington, 2010.27.2



A large, white, stylized letter 'J' is centered on a solid blue background. The letter is thick and has a curved bottom that tapers to a point.

**J is for jungle gym.**

*A child climbs.*

*Where do you like to play at the park?*

(detail) Esther Bubley, American, 1922 - 1998, *Untitled*, 1956  
Gelatin silver print, 12 ¼ x 10 ¼ in. (31.1 x 26 cm)  
Gift of Diana & Gabriel Wisdom, 2014.31.28







A large, bold, dark blue letter 'K' is centered on a white background. The letter is a simple, sans-serif font with a thick stroke.

**K is for kite.**

*Kites fly overhead in the wind.*

*How are these kites decorated?*

(detail) Utagawa Hiroshige, Japanese, 1797 - 1858, *Fukuroi: Flying Kites*, Edo Period (1615 - 1868), 1848 - 1849  
Woodcut, 9 x 13 ¾ in. (22.9 x 34.9 cm)  
Museum purchase, gift of private donors, 2005.30.1.28



東海道 廿八

五十三次  
袋井



袋井



袋井  
五十三次



## L is for landscape.

*Landscape paintings show scenes of nature.*

*If you were in this painting, what sounds would you hear?*

(detail) Claude Monet, French, 1840 - 1926, *Champ d'avoine (Oat Field)*, 1890  
Oil on canvas, 26 x 36 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>16</sub> in. (66 x 92.6 cm)  
Gift of Michael A. Singer, 1999.6









**M is for mask.**

*Masks are worn to cover the head or face.  
These are from different places all over the world.*

*What happens to you when you wear a mask?*



Clockwise

1) Unidentified  
Indian Artist  
*Hanuman Mask*  
20th century  
Wood, pigment  
14 ½ x 11 ½ x 6 ½ in.  
(36.8 x 29.2 x 16.5 cm)  
Gift of Mr. and Mrs.  
Thomas J. Needham  
1987.1.59

2) Unidentified  
Abelam Artist,  
Maprik Highlands,  
Papua New Guinea  
*Yam Mask*  
c. 1940, balsa  
wood, pigment  
27 x 6 ¼ x 7 ½ in.  
(68.6 x 15.9 x 19.1 cm)  
Gift of the C. Frederick  
and Aase B. Thompson  
Foundation, 2009.12.5

3) Unidentified  
Japanese Artist  
*Japanese Bird Mask*  
c. 1750 - 1800, wood  
11 ⅝ x 7 ⅞ in.  
(29.5 x 20 cm)  
Gift of Dr. Willard Stone  
S-86-97

4) Unidentified  
Igbo Artist  
*Wooden Face Mask*  
(*Okoroshi Amara*)  
20th century  
Wood, pigment  
9 ½ x 5 ⅞ x 3 ½ in.  
(24.1 x 14.9 x 8.9 cm)  
Gift of Rod McGalliard  
1990.14.9

# N

**N is for nest.**

*An old man feeds baby birds.*

*What do you think baby birds like to eat?*

Paul Jacoulet, French, 1896 - 1960, *Le Nid. Corée (The Nest. Korea)*, 1941  
Color Woodcut, 15  $\frac{3}{8}$  x 11  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. (39.1 x 29.8 cm)  
Gift of Norma Canelas Roth and William D. Roth, 2011.76.10  
© 2018 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / ADAGP, Paris



LE NID  
"Ocree"





**O is for orange.**

*Red, yellow and orange are warm colors.  
Blue, green and purple are cool colors.*

*What type of colors are used more in this painting?*

Janet Fish, American, b. 1938, *October*, 2001  
Oil on canvas, 60 x 48 in. (152.4 x 121.9 cm)  
Museum purchase, gift of Dr. and Mrs. David A. Cofrin, 2002.6.4  
Art © Janet Fish / Licensed by VAGA, New York, NY



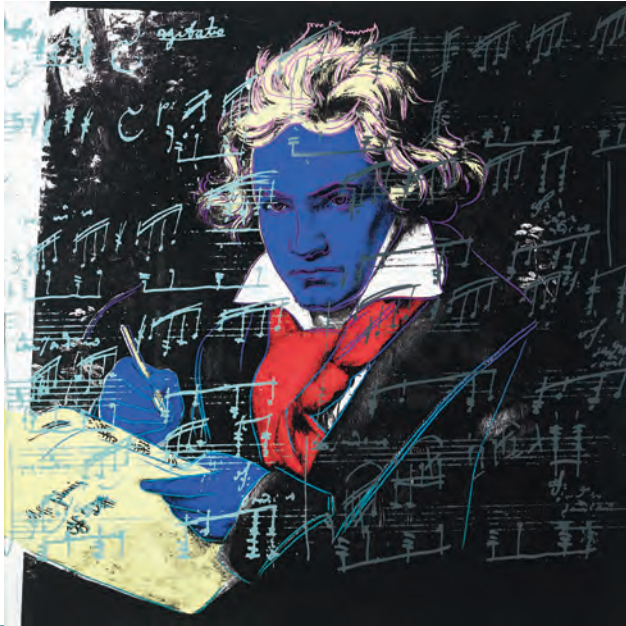
# P

**P is for portrait.**

*Portrait artists use different styles to portray a person's face and personality.*

*If an artist created your portrait, which style would they use?*





Clockwise

1) Andy Warhol  
American, 1928 - 1987  
*Beethoven*, 1987  
Screenprint on Lenox  
Museum Board  
40 1/8 x 40 1/8 in.  
(101.9 x 101.9 cm)  
Gift from The Andy  
Warhol Foundation for  
the Visual Arts, Inc.  
2013.58.3, © 2018 The  
Andy Warhol Foundation  
for the Visual Arts, Inc. /  
Licensed by Artists Rights  
Society (ARS), New York

2) Milton Avery  
American, 1885 - 1965  
*Self Portrait*, 1948  
Oil on canvas  
10 3/4 x 9 1/4 in.  
(27.3 x 23.5 cm)  
Gift of friends of  
the Harn Museum  
2012.28, © 2018 The Milton  
Avery Trust / Artists Rights  
Society (ARS), New York



3) Seydou Keita  
Malian, 1923 - 2001  
*Untitled #59*, 1956 - 1957  
Gelatin silver print  
22 x 15 1/2 in.  
(55.9 x 39.4 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds  
provided by the Caroline  
Julier and James G.  
Richardson Art  
Acquisition Fund, 2002.3.2

4) (detail) Goseida Yoshio  
Japanese, 1864 - 1943  
*Portrait of Tsuda Umeko*  
Meiji era, c. 1893 - 1912  
Painting on silk in mineral  
pigments, sumi ink and  
clam shell gesso  
36 3/8 x 29 1/2 in.  
(93 x 74.9 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds  
provided by The Kathleen  
M. Axline Acquisition  
Endowment, 2015.15



**Q is for queen.**

*A queen wears a crown and sits atop a horse.*

*Where might they be going?*

(detail) Jamini Roy, Indian, 1887 - 1972, *Queen on Horseback*, n.d.  
Gouache on board, 11 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> x 14 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in. (28.7 x 37.8 cm)  
Gift of Dario G. and Renee J. Barozzi, 1991.15.1







# R

**R is for rose.**

*As a flower blooms, it opens its petals wide  
until they begin to fall.*

*How do roses smell?*

Georgia O'Keeffe, American, 1887 - 1986, *Austrian Copper Rose IV*, 1958  
Oil on canvas, 8 ½ x 6 ¾ in. (21.6 x 17.1 cm)  
Bequest of Ruth P. Phillips, 2005.23.7  
© 2018 Georgia O'Keeffe Museum / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York



# S

## S is for sculpture.

*Sculptures are three-dimensional, which is another word for “not flat.” This figure is as tall as a tree and moves his arm to strike his hammer.*

*What are you supposed to hit with a hammer?*

Jonathan Borofsky, American, b. 1942, *Hammering Man at 2,938,405*, 1984  
Corten steel, 24 ft. x 11 ft. x 24 in., 7600 lb. (731.5 x 335.3 x 61 cm, 3447.3 kg)  
Gift of the Martin Z. Margulies Foundation, 2005.16.1





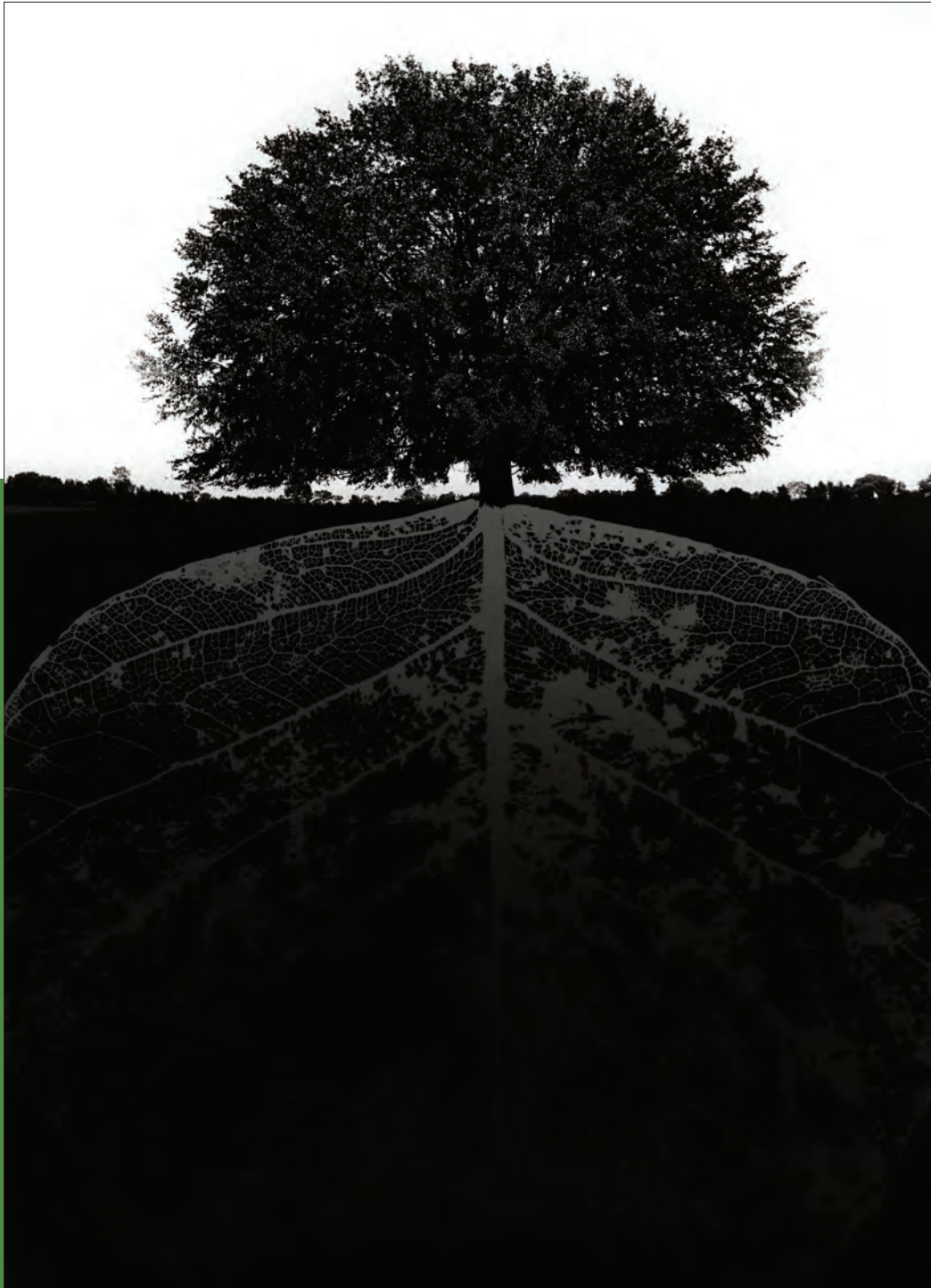


## T is for tree.

*A tree has roots that grow into the ground.  
This artist imagined tree roots that look like a leaf.*

*Can you think of something you cannot see  
and can only imagine how it looks?*

Jerry Uelsmann, American, b. 1934, *Untitled*, 1964 - 1972  
Gelatin silver print, 13  $\frac{3}{8}$  x 9  $\frac{15}{16}$  in. (34 x 25.2 cm)  
Gift of the artist, image courtesy Jerry Uelsmann, PH-72-47-J







U

**U is for under.**

*A group of tiny people stand under a red blanket.*

*Do you think this scene is real or imaginary?*

Olaf Breuning, Swiss, b. 1970, *Independence Day*, 1999  
Chromogenic development print, 48 in. x 5 ft. 1 in. (121.9 x 154.9 cm)  
Gift of Martin Z. Margulies, 2005.16.5





## **V is for veil.**

*In Nigeria, Africa, a king would wear this crown with a beaded veil to protect people from his powerful stare.*

*Do you ever cover your eyes?  
What are you protecting?*

Unidentified Yoruba Artist, *Beaded Crown (Adenla)*, 20th century  
Imported glass seed beads, fabric, 39 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 7 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 7 <sup>5</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in. (101.3 x 19.4 x 19.4 cm)  
Gift of Rod McGalliard, 2002.39.1







**W is for window.**

*Busy people share a sidewalk  
in front of a building.*

*How many windows can you  
count in the background?*





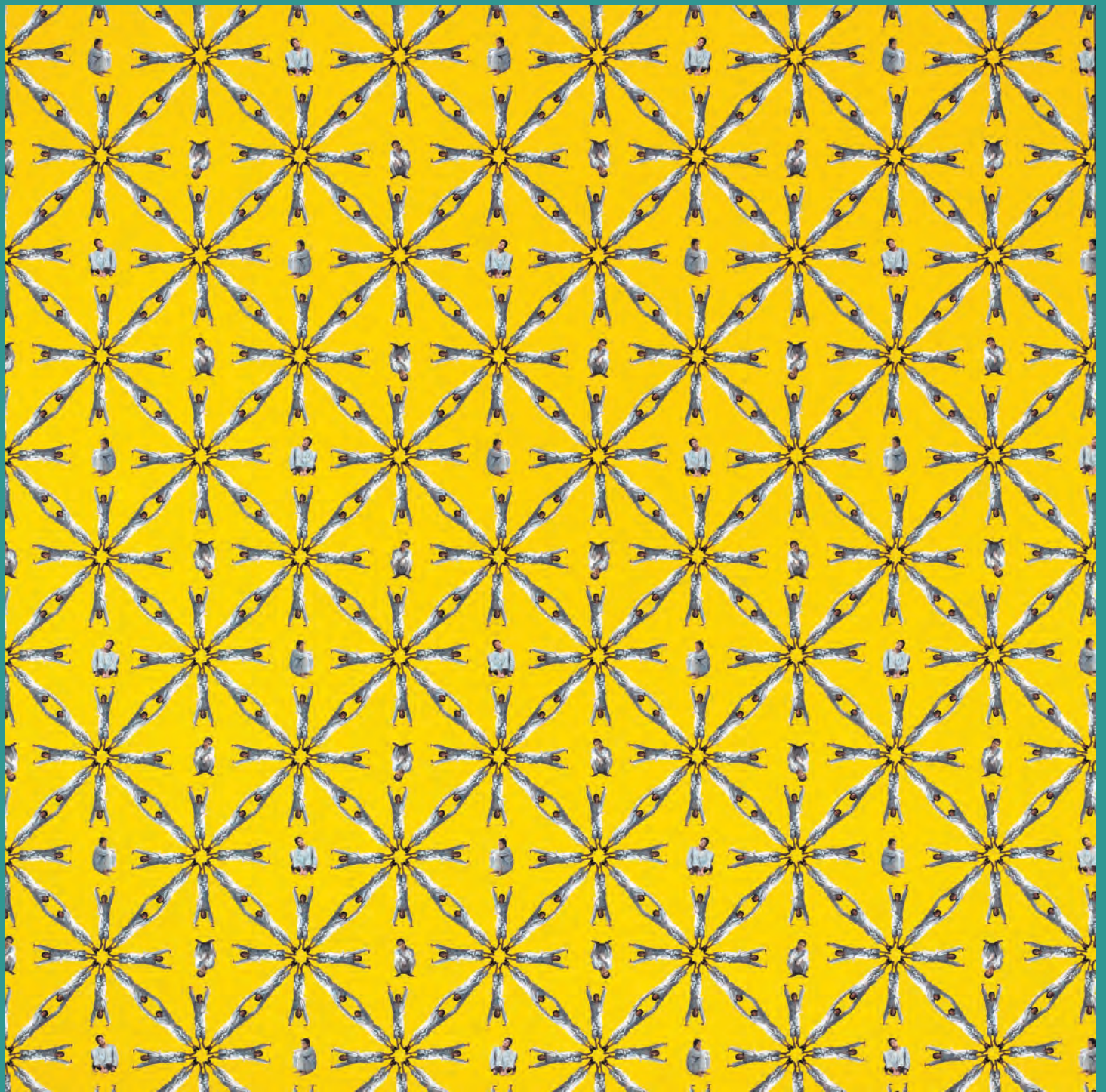
**X is for x.**

*Repeated shapes create a pattern.*

*What shapes are used to make this  
criss-cross pattern?*

Lee Joongkeun, Korean, b. 1972, *Same Ages*, 2003  
Photograph, 45 ½ x 45 ½ in. (115.6 x 115.6 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds provided by The David A. Cofrin Fund for Asian Art, 2013.33.1







**Y is for yellow.**

*A girl wears a yellow dress and plays a musical instrument called a zither.*

*Does it look similar to a musical instrument you have seen? What do you think the music might sound like?*

Gustavo Montoya, Mexican, 1905 - 2003, *Niña en amarillo (Girl in Yellow)*, c. 1950s  
Oil on canvas, 21 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> x 17 <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> in. (55.6 x 45.4 cm)  
Museum purchase, funds provided by friends of the Harn Museum of Art, 2008.40.7







**Z is for zigzag.**

*A zigzag line turns back and forth, up and down.*

*Can you trace a zigzag pattern  
in the air with your finger?*

Unidentified Kuba Artist, Democratic Republic of Congo, *Zulu Hat*, 20th century  
Fabric, glass beads, cowrie shells, cuprous metal, 5 ¼ x 7 x 7 in. (13.3 x 17.8 x 17.8 cm)  
Gift of Rod McGalliard, 2003.40.8





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W X Y Z



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