

Making the Ordinary Extraordinary

Transforming Everyday Objects into Whimsical Artworks!

TASK: To explore the Pop Art movement; to discover Form and Proportion and their relationship to sculpture; to introduce students to the iconic works of Claes Oldenburg; to use concrete references to inspire their own creations; to encourage Stewardship for creation by using recycled and found materials; to explore new art media and techniques.



Claes Oldenburg. Floor Burger. 1962 | MoMA

Consider:

- How and why artists use everyday objects as subject matter.
- The choices artists make when creating works of art, exploring subject matter and sources of inspiration, medium, and style.

MATERIALS: masking tape, newspaper, aluminum foil, tempera paint, white gesso, acrylic paint & various other materials.

PREPARATORY PROCESS:

1. Research - Look at the supersized sculptural works of Claes Oldenburg for some inspiration. Consider the everyday objects he chose to explore in his work.
2. Concept - In your sketchbook, brainstorm a list of common, everyday objects that you feel would be challenging and interesting to recreate in a larger-scale sculpture. Select 4 options from your list as potential objects to recreate for your sculpture. Sketch these objects in your sketchbook.
3. Finally, choose ONE object from your list to recreate for your sculpture. Sketch this object from 4 sides (top and bottom too!).
4. In your sketchbook, brainstorm a list of items you may need to build it (cardboard, etc.)
5. Gather & prepare your supplies for your project and bring them to class. Pre-cut your papier maché strips in class!!

🚫 COVID Precautions: You must have ALL of your supplies in a bag that ONLY YOU will be touching in class. Bags will be stored in the class for the duration of your RST. You will NOT be allowed to share supplies and you must dispose of your leftover supplies/garbage.

Our painting/art supplies must be disinfected between each use, so plan out your palette carefully to avoid unnecessary physical contact between shared resources. If possible, please try to bring in your own armature supplies. We do not have enough newspaper or aluminum foil in class.

CREATION PROCESS

1. Construct an armature for your sculpture. This should be completed with newspaper, cardboard, aluminum foil and masking tape. This will provide you with a solid structure or “bones” for your sculpture.

Watch this [video](#) about making armatures for papier maché projects!

Watch this [video](#) on how to make your own papier maché using supplies from home!

2. Cover your armature with at least 3-4 layers of papier maché to enforce it. Build and attach details that you wish you include in your sculpture. Allow your sculpture to dry thoroughly before sanding and priming it.

3. When you are happy with the structural component of your sculpture, lightly sand down any unwanted, rough areas. Once sanding is complete, prime your work with Gesso. **I have extra face masks for you to wear for this, so you don't have to worry about ruining yours with plaster dust.*

4. Once the primer is dry, paint your sculpture with coloured base layers (tempera paint) and build up more layers and details as you progress (acrylic paint).

5. Finishing touches:

- Add gloss medium if desired / appropriate for your object.
- Add additional details.
- Consider your display (if you made a food product, how will it be “served” or presented?)
- Photograph your final work in its “best state” (aesthetics, set up, environment, etc.) and submit your work to your Art Portfolio.

6. Complete your RST Analysis and submit to your Art Portfolio.

