

BAM AT HOME ARTISTS OF IDAHO

DISCUSSION: Shared Experiences

Note: Students can be partnered in advance to connect via online platforms, or this discussion can be with members of students' households as partners. Alternatively, teachers can discuss the activity one-on-one with students remotely, or ask students to respond in writing. Please adapt lessons as appropriate.

Supplies

-image (included)

This artwork is made up of multiple pieces (larger image, pg.3).
Begin by observing the different components.



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DISCUSSION: Shared Experiences

- What different types of materials do you observe?
- What colors do you observe?
- What do you observe in the photographs?
- What connection do you think the artist is making between the photographs and the pebbles in the tanks?
- What type of **environment** do you think the artist is creating?
- Is this an **abstract** or a **realistic** artwork?
 - What do you observe that makes you think that?

This artwork is titled, *The Sea Substance*, by Milica Popović. This is a collaborative artwork. Milica, who grew up in Serbia, worked with Maurizio Giuseppucci, an Italian artist. Serbia and Italy are both near the Aegean Sea (see map). The Sea connects people in Serbia and people in Italy. Both artists visited the Sea in the summers with their families.

- Is there a place you visit each year with your family?
- What makes this place special?
- Do you have an object from this place that you keep with you? What is that object?
How do you keep it? (seashell in a jar, rock in a collection, postcard in a scrapbook, etc.)

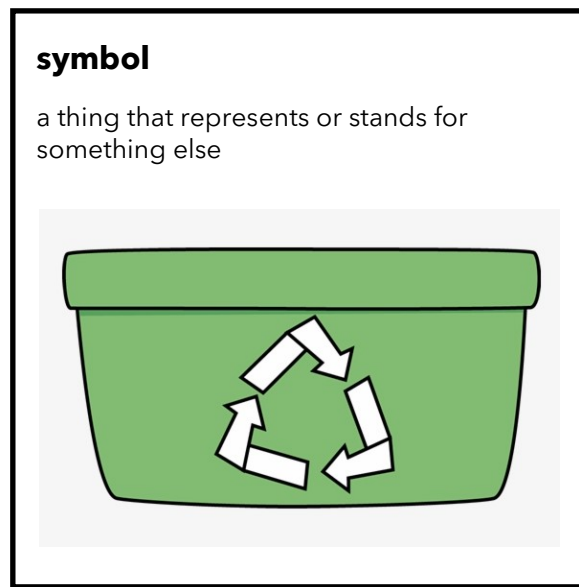


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For many years, there was political conflict and war in this area. People who were friends or neighbors before the war became enemies, and many people were forced to leave their homes and special landscapes behind.

By working together with Maurizio to create this artwork, Milica shares this special place with us and asks us to think about the ways the landscape can bring us together. The artwork is about both the artists' personal experiences, and the experiences of people in a region during a specific time.

- Now that you know a little more about the artists' experiences, what do you think the two frames and the two aquarium tanks **symbolize**?



- Did you imagine an artist would be someone who made artwork like this?

We will continue to observe very different artworks by different artists. Artists have their own source of inspiration, but many artists are inspired by similar experiences or ideas.

- What inspires you to create art?
(places or people that are important to me, significant experiences I have had, my thoughts about world events, things I see, etc.)

In the next mini-lesson, you will observe artwork inspired by the experience of creating.

Here is a sneak peek:



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Milica Popović, (Serbian/American, born Serbia, 1966), **The Sea Substance** (diptych), 2017/2018, mixed-media installation, 49" x 36" x 5.5" box, 20" x 12" x 10" aquarium.



Hear from the artist:

<http://www.boiseartmuseum.org/exhibition/the-2020-idaho-triennial-audio-guide/>

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