

BAM AT HOME ARTISTS OF IDAHO

DISCUSSION: Creating Environments

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

Supplies

-images (included)



(detail images, pg. 4-6)

- What different **media** do you observe?

medium/media

the matter from which a thing is or can be made; facts, information, or ideas for use in creating



- What patterns do you observe?
- How would you describe how the different parts are placed?

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- How would you describe the mood of this piece?
 - Does observing it make you calm, excited, anxious, etc.?
- What characteristics do you think are creating this mood?

If you were able to listen closely to this artwork, you would hear a quiet thumping sound. This sound is coming from inside the artwork. Inside there is a speaker on top of the white box, and on the speaker there are threads—the leftover threads from sewing all these fabric balls.

- What **symbols** do you observe?
- Do you think this artwork is **abstract** or **realistic**?

abstract

relating to general ideas or qualities rather than specific people, things, or actions



Caroline Earley, *Stasis VII*, 2019, ceramic, 7" x 10" x 5.5".

- abstract
- symbolic
 - experience of being within the artwork
 - not a recognizable home

realistic/representational

true to life or nature

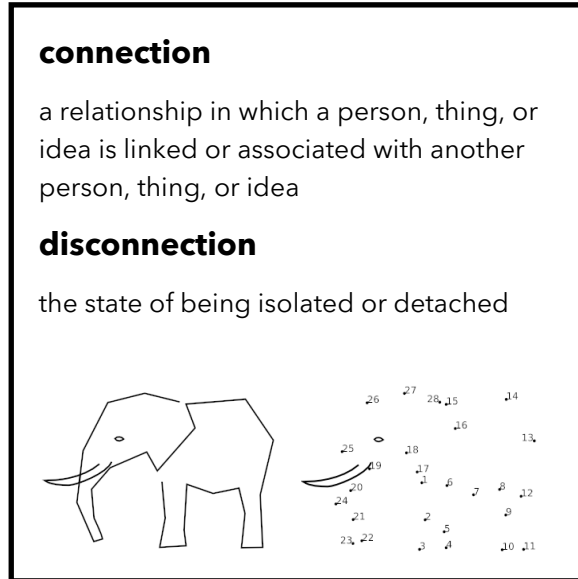


James Cook, *Windfalls - Old Fire Site*, 1988, oil on canvas, 36" x 70".

- realistic
- balls
 - small room
 - picture on wall like a map
 - spools of thread
 - wood floor
 - pedestal
 - light

From these observations, you can conclude that it is abstract and realistic.

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- Where do you observe **connection** in this artwork?
- Where do you observe **disconnection** in this artwork?
- Do you think the artist, Elijah Jensen-Lindsey, is emphasizing **connection** or **disconnection**?
- If you were at BAM, and could go inside the artwork, do you think you would experience a feeling of **connection** or **disconnection**? Why?

connection

- warm light
- heartbeat sound
- bright colors
- inviting space

disconnection

- confusing objects
- small space
- unsettling sound
- unclear meaning/significance

As you observe in this artwork, artists use symbols, media, sound, color, and more to create mood. The mood you observe impacts your understanding of the artwork. Artists use mood to create an experience or share a message.



Hear from the artist:

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

In the next lesson, you will create your own artwork inspired by *The 2020 Idaho Triennial*.

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(bottom)