



# “Must See” Artworks at Mia

## Self-guided group activity

Grades 4-12

Plan on spending time with 8-10 artworks.

Many of these questions are designed to prompt close looking and critical thinking. Read each artwork's label to find answers to fact-based questions. Artwork not on view? Don't worry: There are plenty of others to visit!

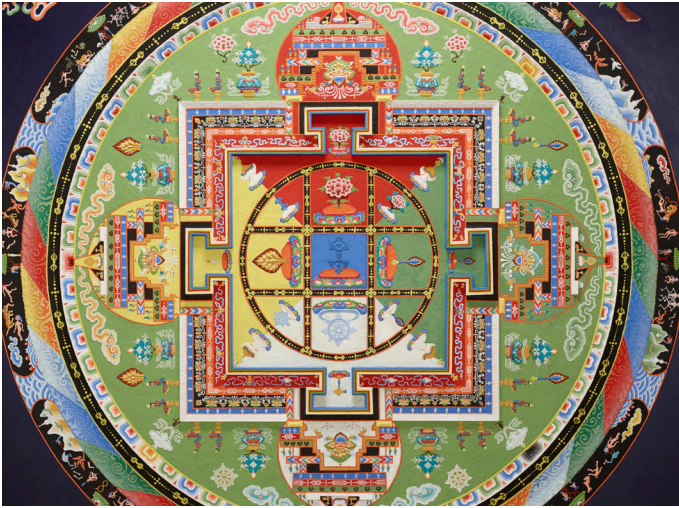


China, *Jade Mountain Illustrating the Gathering of Scholars at the Lanting Pavillion* (detail), 92.103.13  
Gallery 210

This jade sculpture tells a story. What appears to be going on? What do you see that makes you say that?

What are some of your favorite details from the story?





Monks of the Gyuto Tantric University, *Yamantaka Mandala* (detail), 92.44  
Gallery 212

Look closely. There's a lot to see.

What first catches your attention? Why?

What appears to be going on? What do you see that makes you think that?

Mandalas are usually made with colored sand. What material did the monks use to make this one?



Japan, *Suit of Armor from the Kii Tokugawa Family* (detail), 2009.60a-s  
Gallery 219

What's your first reaction to this suit of armor?

Look closely at its craftsmanship: notice how hundreds of lacquered metal and leather plates are laced together with cords.

Why might it have been made in this way?

What aspects communicate the power of its wearer?



Roman, *The Doryphoros* (detail), 86.6  
Gallery 230

What do this man's physical characteristics tell you about him? Look at both his head and body.

What artistic detail impresses you the most? Why?

What do you wonder about *The Doryphoros*?



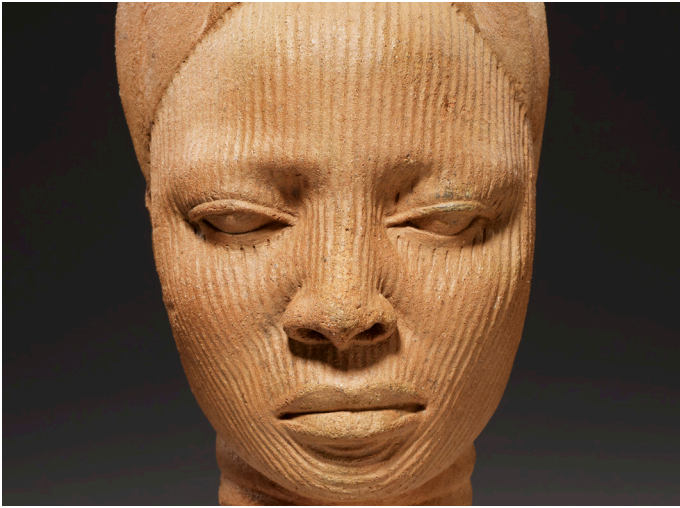
Egypt, *Cartonnage of Lady Tashat* (detail), 16.417  
Gallery 250

What does this artwork tell you about ancient Egyptian life? What does it tell you about ancient Egyptian art?

What hieroglyphs, if any, do you recognize?

What are some of the other pictures you see?

What do they tell you about Lady Tashat?



Yoruba culture, Nigeria, *Shrine Head* (detail), 95.84  
Gallery 250

Look closely at this sculpture from all angles.

What do you like most about this sculpture?

What do you wonder about?

Would you like to have your portrait made as a sculpture or as a painting? Why?



Innu (Naskapi), *Hunting Coat*, 2012.27  
Gallery 261

How did the artist who painted this coat for her husband make it special?

What words could you use to describe the painted designs? The tailoring?

Look around the gallery. Which do you prefer: painted objects or beaded objects? Why?



Chuck Close, *Frank* (detail), 69.137  
Gallery 373

Look closely. What reflection do you see in Frank's glasses?

What about this artwork reminds you of a photograph?  
What reminds you of a painting?

How does the size of this artwork influence how you feel about it?



Do-Ho Suh, *Some/One* (detail), 2012.77a-d  
Gallery 373

How would you describe this sculpture to a friend?

Look closely at the metal dog tags. What do you notice about them?

How does the title *Some/One* influence the way you think about the sculpture?





Pablo Picasso, *Baboon and Young* (detail), 55.45  
Gallery 376

What everyday objects do you see in this sculpture?

If you were to make a sculpture with objects in your home or school, what would you use?

Why do you suppose Picasso chose these objects?

What does the sculpture tell you about him?



Hans Ledwinka, *Tatra T87 four-door sedan* (detail), 2005.138  
Gallery 379

Why do you suppose this car is in the galleries?

What about it would you consider artistic?

What car do you think you'll see in a museum 75 years from now?



Claude Monet, *Grainstack, Sun in the Mist* (detail), 93.20  
Gallery 355

Describe the range of colors in this painting. What words would you use to describe the mood?

What season do you think this shows?

What makes you think so?

What do you wonder about?



Vincent van Gogh, *Olive Trees* (detail), 51.7  
Gallery 355

What do you notice first in this painting?

Do you think the sun is rising or setting? Why?

How does this compare to *Grainstack, Sun in the Mist*?

What's different? What's similar?

Which artwork do you prefer? Why?



Raffaello Monti, *Veiled Lady* (detail), 70.60  
 Gallery 357

At first glance, what material does this bust appear to be made of?

What do you see that makes you say that?

What type of emotion do you think this woman is expressing? Why?



William Howard, *Writing desk* (detail), 2012.11  
 Gallery 304

Look closely at the surface of this desk. What shapes do you recognize?

Which do you wonder about?

Some of these objects likely symbolized crafts and trades familiar to the artist. Which crafts or trades do you think they represent? Why?