

FORGE

MAY 13 - AUG. 19, 2018

CURRICULUM GUIDE



Image: Heiner Zimmermann, *Liquide Collection: Round White*, 2016. Photo courtesy of Dewi Tannatt Lloyd.

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION

FORGE, a Hereford College of Arts touring exhibition made in collaboration with Ruthin Craft Centre and curated by Delyth Done, is traveling from Europe to the United States to open at the Metal Museum. Representing a global paradigm shift from the traditional discourse of the blacksmith, this exhibition synthesizes and articulates the practice of creative and conceptual working with forged metal through the lens of fifteen international metal artists significantly impacting the field.

Participating Artists: Egor Bavykin (Russia), Claudio Bottero (Italy), Ambrose Burne (Wales), Francisco Gazitua (Chile), Nils Hint (Estonia), Takayoshi Komine (Japan), Daniel Neville (USA), Patrick Quinn (USA), Daniel Randall (USA), Leszek Sikon (Poland), Richard Smith (USA), Fred Truus (Estonia), Christian Vaughan Jones (Wales), Stephen Yusko (USA) and Heiner Zimmermann (Germany).

TENNESSEE VISUAL ART STANDARDS

Standard 2: Students will use knowledge of structures and functions.

Standard 4: Students will understand the visual arts in relation to history and cultures.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The student will...

Kindergarten - 2nd Grade

(2.1) demonstrate appropriate knowledge of the elements of art, and use appropriate vocabulary to identify elements of art.

(4.2) identify the influences of culture and history in the artworks.

3rd Grade - 5th Grade

(2.5) identify perceived reasons for the creation of artwork.

(4.2) understand how culture, history, and art influence each other.

6th Grade - 8th Grade

(2.5) reflect on the effective use of organizational components (structures) and expressive qualities (functions) to communicate ideas in works of art.

(4.4) demonstrate an understanding of how the cultural context of a work of art contributes to its meaning.

High School

(2.3) evaluate the function of a work of art as to utilitarian or intrinsic purposes.

(4.2) describe the function and explore the meaning of specific art objects within varied cultures, times, and places.

BEFORE YOUR VISIT

Forging is a process that dates back to before 3,000 B.C.E. It was used to make weapons, tools, hardware, art and architecture. Have students look at images of forged objects, both functional and not, and have them describe the objects using the vocabulary terms defined below. Focus should be on the processes used. Also consider line, shape, form and materials.

VOCABULARY

Anvil — a heavy steel or iron block with a flat top, concave sides and a pointed end, on which metal can be hammered and shaped

Blank — raw material or forging stock (also called a "slug" or "multiple") from which a forging is made

Cold Forging — the process of forming a blank at or near room temperature

Die — a mold used for forging

Fabrication — the building of metal structures by cutting and assembling processes, like sawing or welding

Flash — excess metal squeezed out of die cavities

Forging — the process of shaping metal through compressive force; also the product of the forging process

Hammer — a tool with a head made of non-sparking metal, used to thin, shape and stretch metal through compressive force

Patina — a green or brown film on the surface of metals, produced by exposure to the air or to chemicals

Power Hammer — a type of hammer operated by compressed air, used in place of manual hammering

Repoussé — the process of hammering a design into relief from the reverse side of a metal sheet

Smelting — extracting metal from its ore through a process involving heating and melting

Tongs — tools used to grip and lift hot metal that are specially shaped to avoid scratching the workpiece

DURING YOUR VISIT

Tours

Guided tours are available for groups of 10 or more on Tuesdays through Saturdays from 10:30AM until 4PM and Sundays from 12:30PM until 4PM. All guided tours must be scheduled a minimum of two weeks in advance. Basic tours include a guided tour of the changing exhibitions, the permanent collection and the grounds. The total length of a tour is 45 minutes without a metalworking demonstration, 1.5 hours with one metalworking demonstration and 2 hours with additional demonstrations and/or hands-on activities. Due to special limitations, guided tours are limited to 60 attendees. Please contact the Education Coordinator, Lori Gipson, for additional information at 901.774.6380.

Demonstrations

Demonstrations cannot be scheduled without a guided tour. Demonstrations allow for up to 20 participants per demonstration. Larger groups will be divided.

Forging (30 minutes): Resident blacksmiths demonstrate basic forging techniques, including tapering, bending, twisting and hand-punching a hole as they make a steel hook.

Casting (30 minutes): Learn how various types of molds are created and then watch as molten metal is poured into a mold to make a casting.

Bladesmithing (45 minutes): Two artists create a sword or dagger form using traditional blacksmithing team-striking methods. The demonstration can also explore the tales of Beowulf.

Hands-on Activities

Hands-on activities may be scheduled without a guided tour, in which case general admission is included in the cost of the activity. There is a 10-person minimum to schedule a hands-on activity.

Art Tiles

Casting is the simplest and most direct way of producing a finished shape from metal. Each participant draws a design in a pre-made sand mold, called a scratch block, using a "stylus" tool. Molten metal is then poured into the molds. When the metal is cooled participants have a custom 4" x 4" art tile. FEE: \$35 per person. Additional fees may apply to larger groups.

Copper Bracelets

Students will use hammers and stamps to add their names, symbols and texture to a piece of copper, which will be formed to fit the student's wrist. FEE: \$10 per person.

Chasing Repousse' Copper Tiles

Chasing repousse' is a metalworking technique in which a malleable metal is ornamented or shaped to create a design in low relief. Students will make their own low relief, 2D drawings in copper using a stylus tool to create patterns and textures on metal.

AFTER YOUR VISIT

An artist's study is a close examination of existing work done by another artist. It can take the form of written notes or a sketch. An artist's study can help reveal how artists think about making their work.

Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Have students pick out their favorite object in *FORGE* and describe why they liked it. Then have students do their own artist's study by drawing a sketch of the piece they chose.

6th Grade - High School

Have students pick out their favorite object in *FORGE* and describe elements in the work that make the object interesting to them. Then have students do their own artist's study by drawing a sketch of the piece they chose. Lastly, have students describe how they think the piece was made using the provided vocabulary.