

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ School: \_\_\_\_\_



When we look at an artwork, we can usually say, “This a painting” or “That is a sculpture.” However in contemporary art, there are some artworks that break all these ‘rules’ and look like a painting, sculpture and installation all in one.

Singapore Art Museum presents **Medium at Large**, an exhibition that looks at artworks often created by unusual methods and materials. These materials range from human hair, to whitening soap, rattan, oil paint, even to sound, text and language. In doing so, the works on show ask questions about people’s experiences, encounters and understanding of art.

Let’s take a closer look at some of these works!

1. What do you think the following words mean? Match them with the images provided.

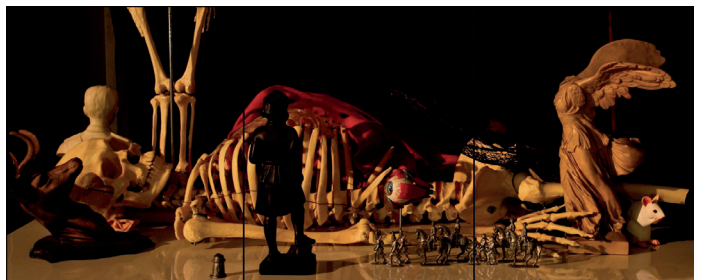
a) a painting



b) a sculpture



c) an installation



d) a photograph



2. Now match them to their descriptions below! The first one has been done for you.

Painting

The art or process of producing images on photosensitive surface

Sculpture

A category of art in which artists use their body as a medium to create art by performing actions in front of an audience

Video

An art practice that uses music, produced sounds and sound technology to create an experience in listening and hearing

Photography

A piece of art that is made by carving or moulding materials into a three-dimensional form.

Installation

A practice of applying paint onto a flat surface

Sound art

A mixed-media artwork (an artwork that is made using different types of materials) that occupies a space in which a spectator can either stand at a distance to view or enter and view

Performance art

A form of contemporary art that involves the creative use of images and video technology

3. What do you think the word “medium” means in art? Colour your answer below!

A type of size

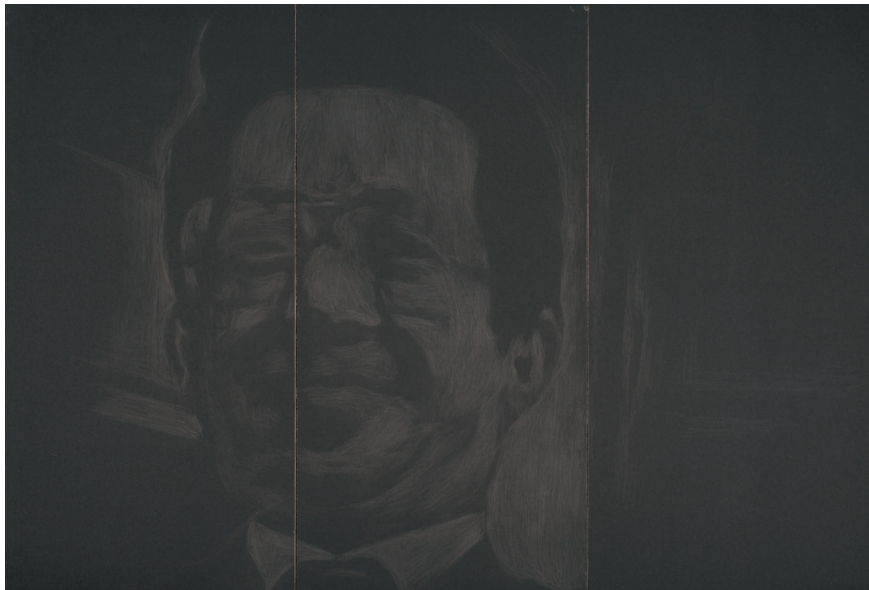
Someone who claims to be able to communicate with ghosts

Materials used in art



Go to Level 1 Galleries (turn right at the Glass Hall)

Look for the artwork *Marcial Bonifacio*.



4. Observe this artwork. If you were to use five words to describe how you feel about this artwork, what would they be and why?

Large empty rounded rectangular box for writing the answer to question 4.

The portrait that you see here is of the late Benigno Aquino. A portrait is a painting, drawing, photograph or engraving of a person, especially one depicting only the face or head and shoulders.

5. Have you seen portraits before? What are they usually made of and how are they usually shown? Colour your answer below:

Painting	Installation	Sculpture	Photography
----------	--------------	-----------	-------------

6. Now look at this artwork. What material do you think is used to make this artwork? (Hint: read "Did You Know?" below)

***DID YOU KNOW?***

Marcial Bonifacio is the nickname of Benigno Aquino, an opposition senator of then Philippines President, Ferdinand Marcos. Aquino was assassinated by a gunshot upon his return from exile in Manila International Airport, despite being warned not to return to the Philippines. His death was not in vain as this assassination brought down the dictator Marcos.

7. If you were to create a portrait of your favourite idol, what material would you use, and why do you think this material is suitable?

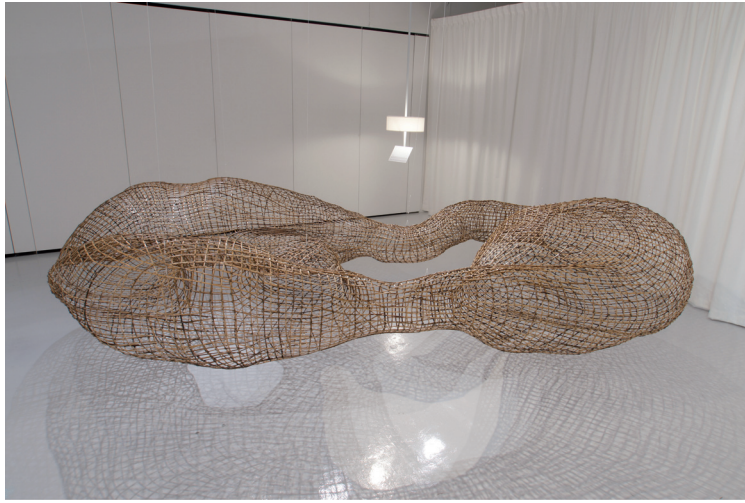
## Suggested Activity

Explore using different materials to create a portrait of your choice. It could be made using interesting materials such as fabric, plastic bottles or ice-cream sticks. Be creative!



Go to Level 2 Galleries (through Level 1 Galleries and up the stairs)

Look for the artwork by artist Sopheap Pich.



8. What comes to mind when you look at this word below?

C Y C L E

Draw or write your answer in this space below.

9. Observe the material used here. What is it? Unscramble the words to find out.



The material is \_\_\_\_\_.

10. Observe the artwork. Does this shape look familiar? What do you think it resembles? (Hint: it is an organ in your body and is used for digestion.)

**DID YOU KNOW?**

To many Cambodians, the stomach is where people feel the pain of war and poverty most strongly, as they were always hungry during these periods.

The artist Sopheap Pich wanted to convey this idea using a material that Cambodian people can relate to. The material used here is usually found in traditional Cambodian crafts and provided extra income for families. As this material is related to survival and preservation of heritage, the artist seeks to make peace between Cambodia's rich material culture and its history of war and poverty.

Look for this artwork in the gallery.



11. What is the title of this artwork?

The title is \_\_\_\_\_.



12. Look closely at this artwork. What material is it made of?

13. If you could wear this artwork, would you wear it and why? How would you feel if you could put this on?

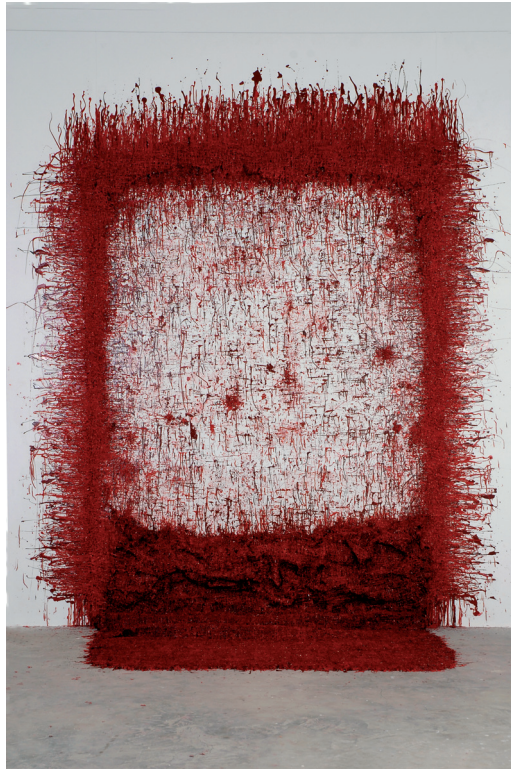
The hairstyle you see here is popular among young girls in rural Java (Indonesia) during a certain period of time.

14. What hairstyles are popular today in your culture? Draw them below.

15. Imagine if you were to wake up with no hair one day. How would you feel? Why do you think you will feel this way?

16. Why do you think hair and hairstyles are important? What makes you say that?

Look for this artwork titled **Status**.



17. Take a closer look at this artwork (but do not touch it). Observe its details.

Have you seen this material before? What is it? How has this material been used in an unusual way?

Artworks can be grouped into various mediums, based on how they are made.

18. How would you categorise this work? Circle your answer below:

Painting

Installation

Sculpture

Photography

19. Looking at your previous answer, why do you categorise the artwork as such?

20. Observe the colours and textures used in this artwork. How do they make you feel?

21. What does this artwork look like or remind you of? What makes you say that?

***DID YOU KNOW?***

Although this artwork was created mainly using acrylic paint, it is not just a painting but can be considered a sculpture and an installation as well because it is three-dimensional.



Go to Level 2 Galleries (turn left at the Chapel)

There is an artwork in the gallery where its objects are made up of materials that are not what they seem. Can you find the artwork shown below?

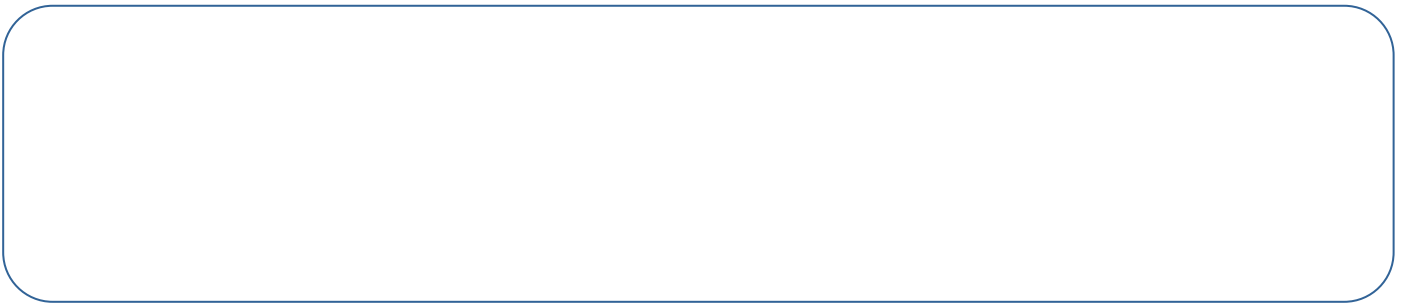


22. Fill in the blanks below to reveal the title of this artwork.

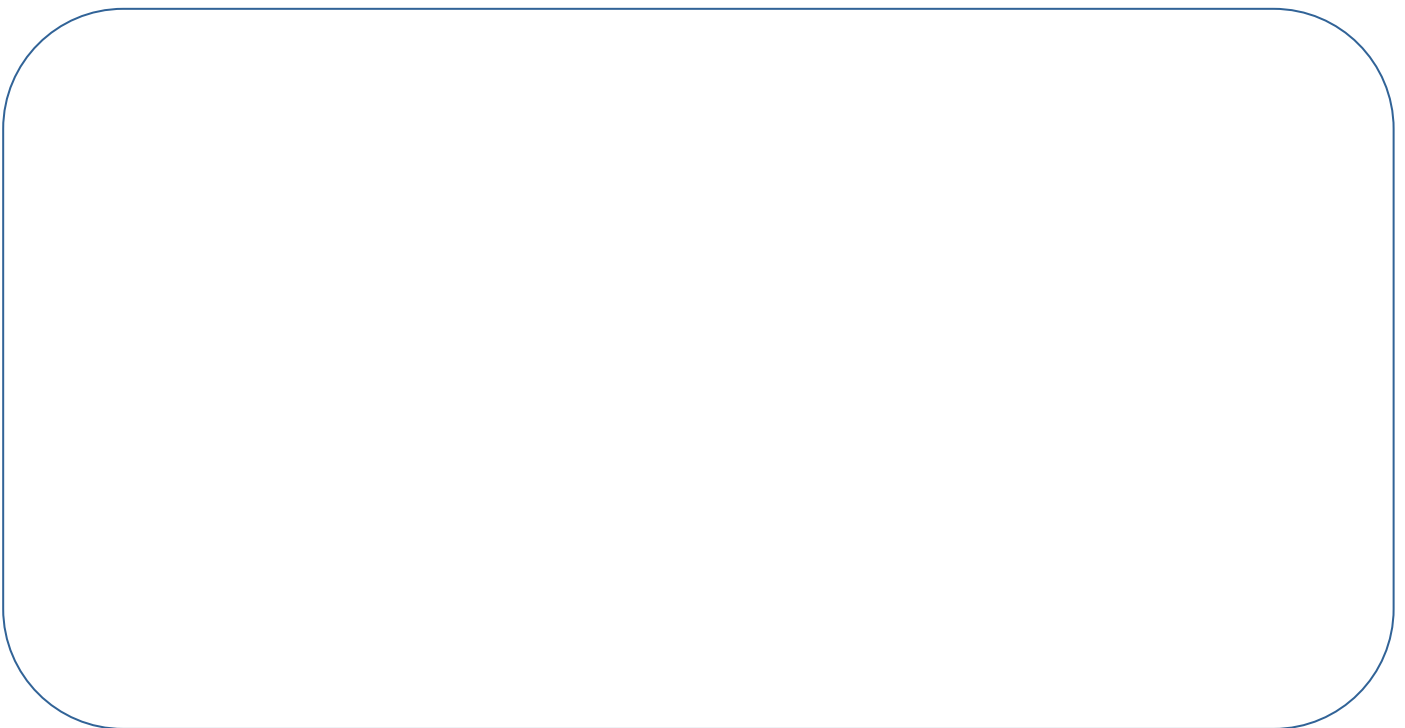
*E* \_\_\_ *h* *o* \_\_\_ \_\_\_ *l* \_\_\_ *a*

23. Identify at least three objects seen here in the artwork.

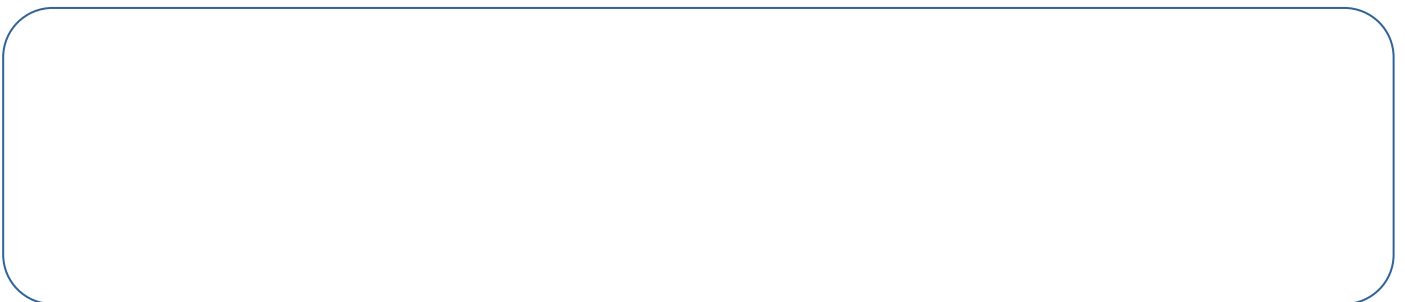
24. What materials are they usually made of?



25. Think about your favourite object. It could be your favourite car, cup or pencil box. Draw it here.



26. What material is your object made of? Imagine you could use a different material to make it. What would it be and why?

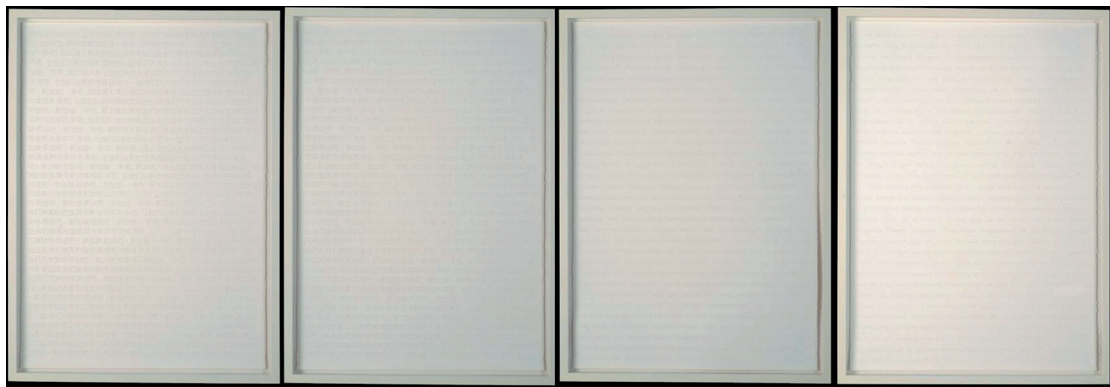


**DID YOU KNOW?**

In this artwork, the artist Gary-Ross Pastrana used commonly found materials in the Philippines to imitate the actual object. For example, the cassette tape and record are made of sawdust and glue. The picture frame is shaped from ashfall from the Mt. Pinatubo eruption, and the 'snow' that the boots are standing in is made from the stuffing of baby diapers.

Were you able to guess that?

Let's look at an artwork by Thai artist, Nipan Oranniwesna. Can you find this artwork below?



27. The title of this artwork is \_\_\_\_\_.

28. What do you see from afar?

Empty rounded rectangular box for answer to question 28.

29. Now observe the artwork up close. What do you notice? What are the words engraved on the paper?

Empty rounded rectangular box for answer to question 29.

30. Do you recognise the languages used here? Try listing them. (Hint: they are the four different languages commonly used in Singapore.)

31. Take some time to read the sentences. Do these sentences sound familiar? Where have you seen them before?

Instead of writing out these sentences using ink and paper, the artist chose a different way to 'write' them.

32. How do you think they were created?

33. Why do you think he chose to do it this way?

## Reflection: my learning journey to SAM

### My Favourite Artwork

My favourite artwork is \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ because  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Some categories of contemporary art include photograph, sculpture, painting and installation. However, as we have seen in this exhibition, artists today often blur the boundaries between these art forms.

Do you prefer traditional forms of art or contemporary art where art mediums are often combined and/or have their “rules” tested? Why do you say so?

I have learnt \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

I prefer traditional forms of art/contemporary art\* because \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

\* circle your answer



## My day at SAM...

Complete this page and pass it to your teacher to deposit at the SAM Front Desk

Name	School	Age	Exhibition title

### I found the activity sheet...

- Very easy    Quite easy    Okay    A little difficult    Very difficult

### I found the activities in the worksheet...

- Very interesting    Quite interesting    Okay    Not so interesting    Not interesting at all

### I would like future activity sheets to have...



**3 things I have learnt...**



**2 things I would like to find out more about...**



**1 thing I hope I can see more of at the museum...**

**\*For Teachers to note:**

Please collect all the pages as a single bundle and deposit them at the SAM Front Desk.