

Landmarks Guide for Adolescents



Peter Reginato

American, born 1945

Kingfish

1986

Painted steel

Subject: Geometric Abstraction

Activity: Expressing personality through shape and color

Materials: Paint and paper

Vocabulary: Abstract, Geometric Abstraction, organic/biomorphic, dynamic

i Introduction

Peter Reginato is a sculptor who works in a style called Geometric Abstraction, but he focuses on softening the contours of hard lines to create biomorphic shapes. His goal is to represent experiences and emotions through boldly colored geometric forms, rather than depicting them realistically. This sculpture is titled *Kingfish*, which refers to a brightly colored bird known as the kingfisher and is also the name of the artist's favorite cartoon character. Reginato used a variety of vibrant colors and dynamic shapes to give this sculpture personality and make it visually interesting.

? Questions

Does this sculpture look like a bird or a person to you?

What characteristics of a bird or a person might this sculpture represent? What colors or shapes correspond to specific attributes?

If this sculpture was not brightly colored and was instead all black, how would its mood and personality be affected?



Activity

Choose an animal. Make a list of the actions and character traits usually associated with the animal. Next, choose a color and shape to represent each of those attributes. Using paint on paper, make a composition that combines those colors and shapes to depict the personality of the animal you chose without depicting it realistically.



Vocabulary

Abstract - Expressing a quality apart from the way an object appears to the eye; the opposite of realistic

Geometric Abstraction - A style of art that uses geometric shapes to create a composition that is not representational or realistic

Dynamic - Characterized by action, the opposite of static