

Landmarks Guide for Younger Children



Seymour Lipton
American, 1903–1986

Pioneer
1957
Nickel-silver on Monel metal



Catacombs
1968
Nickel-silver on Monel metal



Guardian
1975
Nickel-silver on Monel metal

Subject: Abstract Expressionism

Activity: Use geometric shapes to create a figure

Materials: Colored paper, scissors,
and tape or glue

Vocabulary: Shape, layer

Seymour Lipton, continued



Introduction

Seymour Lipton was a dentist before he became an artist. He started off carving his sculptures out of wood, and later he used sheets of metal. Lipton heated sheets of metal so they could be bent and attached to one another. He used geometric shapes, like squares and circles, to make sculptures that represent people and feelings. When artists do this they are working in a style of art called Abstract Expressionism.

Questions

What shapes do you see in the sculptures?
Are there any shapes or colors that remind you of certain feelings or objects?

What do you think these sculptures represent?
If they had feelings or emotions, what do you think they would be?

Activity

Using colored paper, cut geometric shapes of different sizes and colors. Experiment by rearranging and layering the shapes to make designs that look like people, familiar places, or that represent a feeling.

Vocabulary

Shape — A basic element like a square, circle, or triangle that makes up a work of art

Layer — Arranging shapes so that they overlap and create new shapes