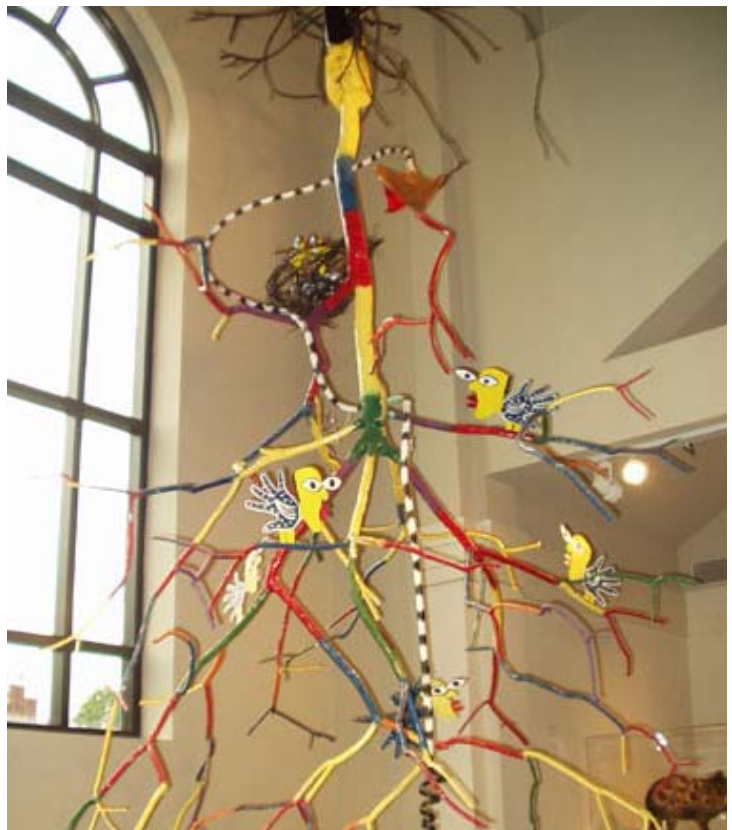


Sculpture

Sculpture:
A three-dimensional work of art.
It can be created through carving,
construction, casting or modeling.



K.G. McIntosh (1949-)

Chicken George c. 1986

Poplar Wood

About the Artist:

K.G. McIntosh's first wood sculpture, a barred owl, was completed in 1976. Although the majority of his works are animals, he has sculpted some humans. He says "that sculpture is the art form which people respond to most naturally. I make large sculpture with carving tool marks for texture. A natural oil finish protects and beautifies the wood." Today McIntosh lives and works in Cleveland, Georgia.

About the Art:

Unlike other [objects](#) in the [Museum](#), you may touch *Chicken George*. A cartoon version of Chicken George is found in our "Learning to Look" logo.



Discussion Questions:

- What is the difference between a [shape](#) and a [form](#)? Is *Chicken George* a shape or a form?
- How do you think this work feels?
- Can you find [pattern](#) in this work? What elements did McIntosh use to create a pattern?
- How do you think this work was made?

Butch Anthony (1963-) *The Mobbin Tree, (1995-1996)* Sumac tree and mixed media



Discussion Questions:

- How is this work different from anything else you have seen in the [Museum](#)? (i.e. It can move freely, it hangs from the ceiling, etc.)
- What do you see in this work of art? Look closely to see all of the things the artist used to make this piece. What [shapes](#) did the artist use for the birds?
- What [colors](#) are used?
- Is this mobile [balanced](#)? How did the artist achieve balance? Is it [symmetrical](#)? What is the difference between symmetry and balance?
- If you could plug this mobile in and activate it, what would it do? What sounds would it make?
- Where have you seen a mobile before?

About the Artist

Butch Anthony began to paint in 1994, using found objects to help tell legends about people who live near him. He currently lives and works in Seale, Alabama. His paintings often depict humorous musings of modern habits as well as work, life, death, money and women. Butch also creates sculptures in a variety of sizes using wood, tin, wire and other found objects. Butch is often recognized by his “art car,” a black hearse adorned with a variety of found objects.

About the Art

The Mobbin Tree tells a story of blue jays protecting their babies from a deadly snake attempting to attack the nest. This simple theme takes on a monumental and magical aspect as it is played out in the branches of an actual sumac tree that is painted a rainbow of colors. Outlandish birds with human eyes and tail feathers in the shape of human hands live in the tree. This [sculpture](#) was inspired by the artist’s observation and great appreciation of nature. It is also shaped by elements of both folk art and modern art: modern art because the birds, which are cut from tin and colored with house paint, reference modernist theory borrowed from the cubism of Picasso and Joan Miró; it can be categorized as folk art because of the number of found materials that make up the work.

The Mobbin Tree

Once upon a time a boy in Alabama went out hunting in the woods, and while he was walking he heard a noise that was strange to his ear. He followed the strange noise and came to a strange tree where he saw a giant snake, a white oak runner snake, holding a blue jay in its mouth. The boy shot the snake and it dropped the bird to the ground. The boy saw that the bird wasn’t dead it just had a broken wing, so he took it home to raise it for a pet. He built the bird a cage and fed it corn that he bought from the money he made from selling the snake’s skin. When the bird got well he took it to the woods to let it free. Right before the bird flew off he told the boy that every time he saw a snake he would holler and mob the snake so the boy could hear him and come kill it for its skin. That was a long time ago, now all the blue jays in Alabama know how to do this, but all the people don’t know how to hear them.

B. A.
Seale, Alabama

Sculpture

COMPARISON QUESTIONS

1. How is Butch Anthony's mobile similar to other works of sculpture you have seen like *Chicken George* or *La Belle Augustine*? How is it different? Why is it considered to be sculpture rather than painting?
2. What material do you think *Chicken George* is made from? Is it the same material used to make *The Mobbin Tree*?
3. How do works of sculpture like *The Mobbin Tree* or *La Belle Augustine* differ from paintings such as Thomas' *Air View of Spring Nursery* or Krasner's *Still Life*? Do you like one more than the other? Why do you feel this way?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

VISUAL ARTS AND MATH

Create a Mobile

Materials:

String, coat hangers, straws, pipe cleaners and found objects.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will create an original 3-D work of art using found objects.

Procedure:

Review with students the definition of a mobile and found object.

Reference the transparency if necessary.

1. Provide materials such as string, coat hangers, straws, pipe cleaners and found objects and an example of a mobile. Have students create a mobile inspired by Butch Anthony's work *The Mobbin Tree*.
2. Ask students to design a variety of organic and geometric shapes as elements of the mobile.

Variation:

Butch Anthony incorporated numerous colors into this mobile. Have students select one or two complementary colors that will be altered through tinting and shading in their mobile.

Sculpture

VISUAL ARTS

Create a Sculpture

Materials:

Clay, found objects or paper and glue if necessary.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will create an 3-D original work of art

Procedure:

Using clay, found objects or paper ask students to create their own sculptures. Discuss what makes a work of art a sculpture. Have each student explain their motivations in creating the type of sculpture they did.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Create a Story

Materials:

Butch Anthony's story about *The Mobbin Tree*, paper and writing utensil.

Goals/Objectives:

Students will listen to the story of *The Mobbin Tree*, use descriptive language and write a short story based on a work of art.

Procedure:

1. Artists are often inspired by stories or tales. Many times a piece may reference characters in a book or ones of historical importance.
2. Review the story that Butch Anthony wrote about *The Mobbin Tree*.
3. Ask students to write descriptive words or phrases that could be identified with the work. Ask some students to share their descriptions.
4. After the discussion, have students write a short story or tale about the work of art. Ideas for inspiration might include: why the artist decided to create this work, what were the materials of the piece used for before becoming a work of art or alternative sites for this work.

