

# Self Portrait Objects

Trompe l'oeil Sculpture

# Trompe l'oeil

- visual illusion in art, especially as used to trick the eye into perceiving a painted detail as a three-dimensional object



# Objectives/Requirements

- Create a trompe l'oeil sculpture
- Create a realistic object, or group of objects, that reflect you (This object only represents a part of you not you in its entirety):
  - Your culture (traditions, objects, clothing, foods, etc.)
  - The time period in which you live (21<sup>st</sup> century, 2015, millennial generation)
  - The place you live (United States, San Diego, your house, etc.)
  - Your interests, hobbies, favorite past time
  - An item that tells something about you
- Your object should be realistic, or appear true to life, and have excellent craftsmanship

# Objectives/Requirements cont.

- Use any hand building technique (slab, coil, pinch, etc.)
- Create the object actual size, scale up small objects, or scale down large objects. Try and pick an object that is 5-7 inches (I am flexible with this depending on detail) or scale your object up or down (depending if it is large or small)
- Your object must be truly 3 dimensional in nature and **cannot be flat or simple in shape** (examples of objects NOT to do: sports balls, phone, pizza, laptop, tennis racket, etc.)



# Sylvia Hyman

- September 9, 1917 – December 23, 2012
- Known for her lifelike sculpture
- often used the artist technique of trompe-l'œil (meaning "deceive the eye" or "fooling the eye" in French) to create the realism of art.
- Much of Hyman's work featured everyday objects, such as paper, books, or food, realistically crafted from ceramic
- Professionally, Hyman worked as a public school art teacher
- Sylvia Hyman died in Nashville, Tennessee, on December 23, 2012, at the age of 95.











# Video





# Marilyn Levine

- **Marilyn Levine was a Canadian-born ceramic artist She made her fame in the ceramic field for her trompe l'oeil images of ceramic leather objects, such as handbags, garments, briefcases and boots.**
- **Marilyn continued creating her unique leather objects until her death in 2005. Marilyn Levine was a forerunner of the very contemporary exploration of ceramic as “object d’ arte”, (art object) a major factor in American ceramics.**

# Marilyn Levine, Spot's Suitcase, 1985



# Marilyn Levine, Bob's Cowboy Boots, 1973



# Enlarging objects changes the way the viewer thinks about the object

- Check out the soft sculptures and installation pieces created by Claes Oldenburg



# Claes Oldenburg



After settling in New York in 1952, Claes Oldenburg became interested in making art that broke away from traditional forms (such as painting) and venues (such as galleries). During the late 1950s and early 1960s his performances, Happenings, environments, and other works drew on the growing consumerism of American culture, including advertising, comic books, and television, and he became associated with the newly developing Pop Art movement.

## Soft Sculpture

What culture is represented here? What does it say about that culture?



*Shoestring Potatoes Spilling  
from a Bag (1966)*



*French Fries and Ketchup, 1963*



Clothespin, 1976  
Philadelphia

- What is this object?
- What does it tell us about culture, time, and place?
- What does it tell us about the artist?



Big electric plug, 1970  
Philadelphia

- What is this object?
- What does it tell us about culture, time, and place?

# Student Examples

- As you look at the following examples think about what this object tells us about the artist
- Does it give you insight into the student's culture, time, or place?
- Maybe it address one of these things or maybe all three



























































# Brainstorming Step 1: Who are you?

Culture	Time Period	Place
1. Polish/American 2. Food 3. Mom's family 4. Flag 5. Music	1. Gen X 2. 3. 4. 5.	1. Chicago 2. 3. 4. 5.

Step 1: List a minimum of 5 things (words, objects, phrase, etc.) under each column. The words must be related to the column heading and related to you.

Answer questions such as these:

Culture:

- What ethnicity are you?
- What food do you eat?
- What clothes do you wear?

The place you live:

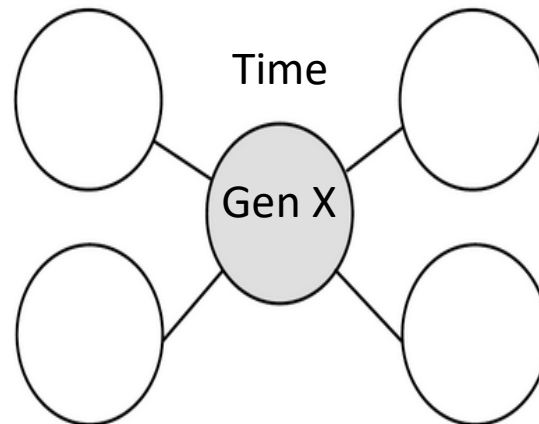
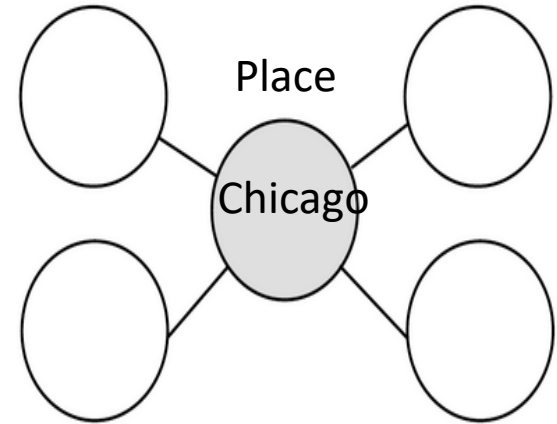
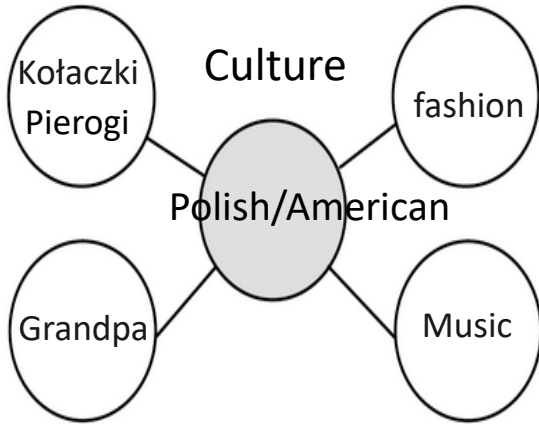
- What country, city, state do you live?
- What does your house look like?
- What does your neighborhood look like?

Time period:

- In what generation were you born?
- What are some things you see in use daily?

## Brainstorming Step 2:

Choose 1 word from each category and make 3 bubble maps



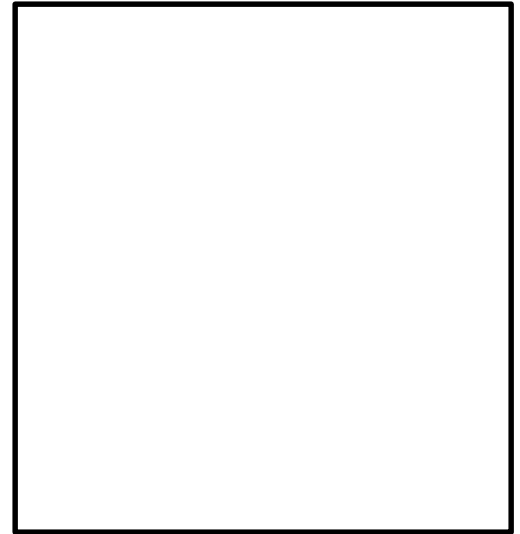
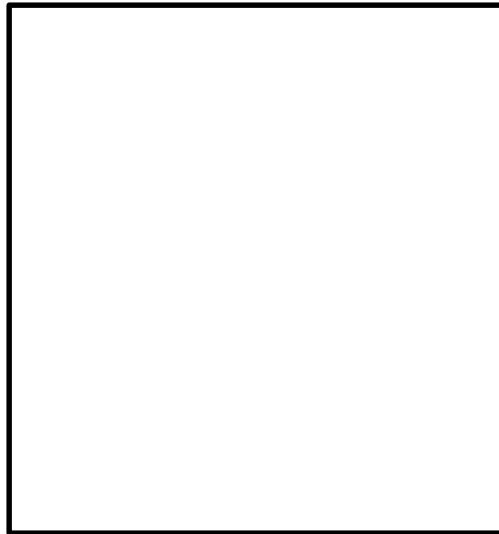
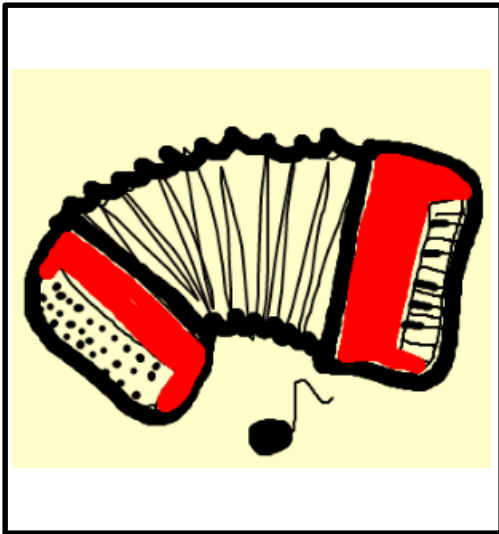


Now that you have brainstormed your ideas, list any three objects/words/people/etc. from your bubble map that describe you most or are most important to you

1. Grandpa – accordion
2. GenX – boombox
3. Chicago – the L (elevated train)

# Thumbnail Sketches

Create a thumbnail sketch of each



# Final Sketch

Choose 1 of your three thumbnail sketches and make a large, detailed, final sketch of it.





- Students will create a realistic object that will reflect their identity and the time in which they live. Students will look at artwork from Claus Oldenburg, Robert Arneson, Marilyn Levine, and (Sylvia Hyman?). As a class we will discuss the objects these artist made and how these objects reflect the time is which they lived.