
What do you have around you that could be turned into a face? How will you make this face an individual? What details will you include?

Nicole Eisenman, *Untitled*, 2017
Oil on cast aluminum, 14 1/8 x 15 1/2 x 3/4 inches

Nicole Eisenman, *Untitled*, 2017
Oil on cast aluminum, 15 1/2 x 11 x 1 3/4 inches

Nicole Eisenman, *Untitled*, 2017
Oil on cast aluminum, 11 3/4 x 9 x 7/8 inches

Nicole Eisenman, *Untitled*, 2017
Oil on cast aluminum, 14 1/2 x 12 1/2 x 1 1/2 inches

OBJECTIVES

1. Look at 4 relief sculptures, or works of art that hang or lay flat on one side with parts that go into three-dimensions on the other side, by contemporary artist Nicole Eisenman. Share observations and describe what you notice using details from each sculpture. Relate what you see to what you have experienced or noticed in your own life.
2. Create a relief sculpture of a face using found materials. Add details like facial features, such as eyes, nose, mouth, facial hair, expression, or color. Consider how to make this face unique, special, that of an individual.

**MATERIALS:** Anything you have available, including but not limited to cardboard, aluminum foil, paper, tape, markers, drawing tools, paint, paintbrushes; also things to connect these materials together, like glue or tape

**LOOK AND DESCRIBE**

- Spend time looking at the four relief sculptures by Nicole Eisenman. Check out and note any details. What do you notice? Share 2-4 observations for each. What do you notice that’s different between each relief sculpture? Eisenman uses color, texture, and shape to create unique faces.
- Nicole Eisenman uses all different materials from her studio to create these relief sculpture portraits. Once compiled, she casts them in aluminum, then paints them or adds other details or materials. After looking at the four examples, focus on the texture. Try to guess what Eisenman may have used to create those different details. List your guesses.
- Artists around the world and from the past have created faces, or portraits. Why do you think portraits are so popular? How else do we use the human face in commercials, cartoons, or elsewhere? Share your observations of faces from everyday life.

**MAKE AND DO**

- Each face is different, or unique. What makes your face, your friend’s face, your pet’s face, special or different from other faces?
  - **SHAPE:** Consider the shape of different features: eyes, eyebrows, nose, the whole head. What shapes do you see in someone’s face?
  - **COLOR:** Various colors show up on a face. How might you use unusual or unnatural colors in your work of art?
  - **TEXTURE:** What’s the difference between the texture of an eyebrow versus a lip? What about someone with facial hair or bangs?
- Think about the three elements above when searching your house for materials you can use to create a work of art. What textures can you gather? What might they turn into when part of a face?
- Once gathered, put these different pieces together to make a face. If you have them, use markers or paints to add color to certain areas, like how Nicole Eisenman uses oil paint on top of aluminum. Use whatever tape or glue you have to combine different materials together. If you don’t have any, assemble them, then snap a photo or draw your composition before creating a new one.
- Take some time to think about who this face is, what they like to do. Once you get to know them, make a friend for them. What might be similar between them? What might be different?

**OTHER RESOURCES**

Check out this gallery that showed many of Nicole Eisenman’s faces, Anton Kern Gallery:


Take a look at this Google Arts & Culture gallery of faces:

- [https://artsandculture.google.com/entity/portrait/m01dv4h?categoryId=other](https://artsandculture.google.com/entity/portrait/m01dv4h?categoryId=other)
FOUND OBJECT FACES // NICOLE EISENMAN // SERIES OF CAST ALUMINUM FACES, UNTITLED (2017)

What do you have around the house that could be turned into a face? How will you make this face an individual? What details will you include?

LOOK AND DESCRIBE: Take some time to jot down your ideas.

| What do you notice in each of the 4 relief sculptures by Nicole Eisenman? Share 2-4 answers for each. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | 1. | 1. | 1. |
| 2. | 2. | 2. | 2. |
| 3. | 3. | 3. | 3. |
| 4. | 4. | 4. | 4. |

What is different between all of these relief sculptures? List your ideas related to shape, color, and texture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What different shapes do you see?</th>
<th>What different colors do you see?</th>
<th>What different textures do you see?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

What do you think Nicole Eisenman found around her studio to create these unique faces? List your guesses. Look at the textures for clues.

MAKE AND DO: Take some time to get ideas together before creating your work of art.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sketch different shapes seen on faces.</th>
<th>Explore some color choices for realistic or abstract faces.</th>
<th>Sketch some different textures observed on faces.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Use the back of this paper to do any other sketching or drawing.

Gather your materials and start face-making!