MAKING KNOWING: CRAFT IN ART, 1950–2019
This exhibition of works drawn mostly from the Whitney’s collection shows how artists have explored the materials and techniques of craft over the past seventy years. Some artists work with weaving, sewing, or pottery, while others experiment with textiles, thread, clay, beads, or other materials.

We hope you’ll be inspired by the art and try your hand at some of the materials and techniques that you see today!
In *Signs of Love*, Ree Morton combined painting, sculpture, and aspects of theater design, using the wall and floor as both a canvas and a stage. This installation features objects and words that might be about love. Look closely. What signs and symbols can you find? What do they mean to you?

In the image:

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- ____________  ____________
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- ____________  ____________
Think of someone important to you. Decorate this chair for them. Think about the objects you might include to represent that person.

Pepón Osorio created this portrait of a man named Angel, who shines shoes for a living. You can see an almost life-size photograph of Angel on the back of the chair. By turning the chair into a throne, Osorio honors Angel and his work. The video screens show a man spitting onto a shoe to get a glossy shine, and a shoe being polished. Look at the small objects on this sculpture. What clues do they give you about Angel's life?
Jeffrey Gibson often makes work that represents his background, including his Choctaw and Cherokee heritage. This doll-like figure is made of materials such as glass beads, metal jingles, and nylon fringe. The title of this sculpture—*BIRDS OF A FEATHER*—suggests that people who have similar interests usually stick together. Imagine that this figure could move. What message might they want to communicate? How would they do it? Would they sing or dance? Jump or run?
Think of an everyday object in your home. Imagine that this object is made of beads, and draw it by shading in “beads” in the grid. Press hard with your pencil for darker shades and softly for lighter shades.

Liza Lou created this kitchen out of approximately 30 million glass beads! She used a pair of tweezers to put each bead into place. It took her five years to make the whole artwork. Look at the details and explore what’s happening in this kitchen. Who might have left the food on the table or the dishes in the sink? What work still needs to be done here?
Explore More!

Look at the artworks in the exhibition and see if you can find these materials:

☐ Wool  ☐ Paint
☐ Clay  ☐ Fabric
☐ Metal  ☐ Beads

Draw one of the artworks or a detail of it.

Fun at Home!

Try out some of these projects when you get home:

☐ Use air-dry or polymer clay to make a group of teeny-tiny objects.
☐ Find some cardboard and yarn and create a sculpture.
☐ Transform an old toy into a new artwork.
☐ Collect objects such as leaves, bark, or twigs to make a nature collage.
☐ Make a banner out of a piece of fabric and paint. Write on it with markers.
☐ Create a hanging artwork using yarn, string, and beads.
☐ Use a cardboard box and small objects to make a treasure chest and decorate it inside and out.
☐ Make a metal sculpture out of aluminum foil.
☐ Look around your kitchen. Create an edible sculpture. Eat it!

EXPLORE MORE!

FUN AT HOME!