

T R A D I T I O N  
*i n t e r r u p t e d*

## Rothko Room

Remy Jungerman:  
Higher Ground

Jeila Gueramian  
*Let's Step Inside*

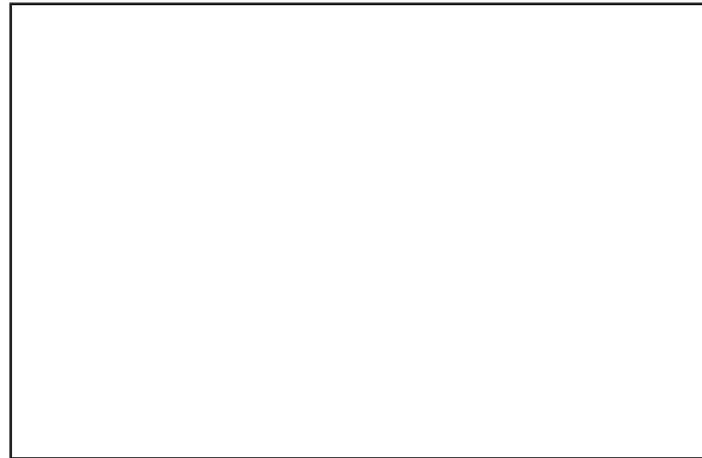
This **FAMILY GUIDE** will lead you through the KMA galleries with discussion prompts. We encourage you to go into the Learning Center and use this guide to create your own artwork inspired by the exhibitions.



**Katonah Museum of Art**



Shirin Hosseinvand, *Emerald*, 2019  
Persian mirror mosaic  
Courtesy of the artist



Design or re-create a logo here



Ana Gómez, *Maruchan* from the *Disposable* series, 2009  
Stoneware ceramic, glaze, gold varnish  
Courtesy of the artist

**Find this artwork.**

Shirin Hosseinvand is an Iranian American artist who lives and works in Tehran, Iran. She merges ancient Iranian mosaic mirror work with popular consumer objects like a Coca-Cola can. She adds her ethnic identity to this mass produced item. Compare this sculpture to a real Coca-Cola can.



Shirin Hosseinvand, b. 1975, Ardebil, Iran

- How does the size of this sculpture affect how you think about it?
- Look closely at the materials. How do you think the mirror pieces are cut to fit on the round shape? What do you see when you look closely?

Visit the Learning Center to design or re-create a logo to make a mosaic cup.

**Find this artwork.**

With her *Disposable* series, Mexican artist Ana Gómez uses ceramics—an ancient material that is part of every home and kitchen—to comment on both our quick-fix, take-out culture and globalization.



Ana Gómez, b. 1973, Saltillo, Mexico

- Compare this sculpture with a photo of the Maruchan instant lunch cup. What has the artist changed? Think about material, color, and the logo.
- Do the changes make you think differently about fast food?
- Look at both Ana Gómez's and Shirin Hosseinvand's sculptures. What are some similarities? What are some differences?



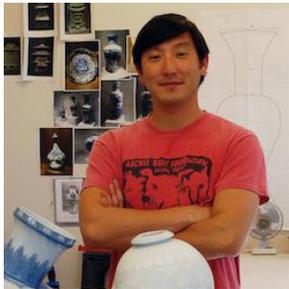
**Steven Young Lee**, *Gourd Vases with Lotus Pattern*, 2015  
 Porcelain ceramic, white slip, glaze  
 Courtesy of Duane Reed Gallery, St. Louis, MO

Title: Gourd-Shaped Vase  
 Period: Qing dynasty (1644–1911)  
 Date: late 18th–first half of the 19th century  
 Culture: China  
 Medium: Porcelain with incised decoration under white glaze



**Find this artwork.**

Steven Young Lee grew up in the United States, the son of immigrant Korean parents. He has said, “I am often situated between cultures looking from one side into another.”



Steven Young Lee, b. 1975, Chicago, IL

- Examine the vases closely. What is unusual about them?
- How do they compare to this example of a traditional Chinese gourd-shaped vase?
- Why do you think the artist shaped the vases this way? What might he be suggesting about beauty and perfection?
- Have you ever created something that wasn't quite “perfect” but you cherished it anyway?



**Jayden Moore**, *Specimen #5*, 2013  
 Silver-plated platters  
 Courtesy of Ornamentum, Hudson, NY

**Find this artwork.**

Jayden Moore grew up in a family of tombstone makers and spent his childhood rummaging through strangers' belongings and listening to mourners making arrangements for their loved ones. He now collects silver platters from second-hand shops and thinks about how people define themselves and others through objects.



Jayden Moore, b. 1986, Antioch, CA

- Who do you imagine owned these trays? Could you still use them as trays to carry food?
- How do you think the artist assembled these pieces?
- Do you own a special object or toy that you think represents you?

Visit the Learning Center to create a two item mash up like this artist does.

## Righter Gallery



**Mounir Fatmi**, *Maximum Sensation*, 2016  
Skateboards, prayer rugs  
Courtesy of the artist

### Find this artwork.

Mounir Fatmi's artwork features fourteen skateboards, each topped with a fragment of a Muslim prayer rug.

- Why do you think the artist combined these two unlikely objects?
- Why do you think they are hung this way?

Skateboarders are very passionate about their sport and often use the skateboard like a canvas.

Prayer rugs are also very personal. How would you decorate a skateboard to say something about yourself? Use the skateboard outline to draw your design.



Mounir Fatmi, b. 1970, Tangier, Morocco

## Beitzel Gallery



**Camille Eskell**, *F-Ezra: Made a Woman*, 2014  
Digital imagery, felt, silk, mixed media, wood pedestal, platform



**Fez (hat)**  
A type of felt hat commonly worn in the Middle East and Ottoman Empire

### Find this artwork.

Artist Camille Eskell has a unique cultural background. Her Jewish family comes from the Middle East (Iraq) and South Asia (India). She uses the fez cap (traditional Middle-Eastern headgear) as the jumping off point for her artwork.

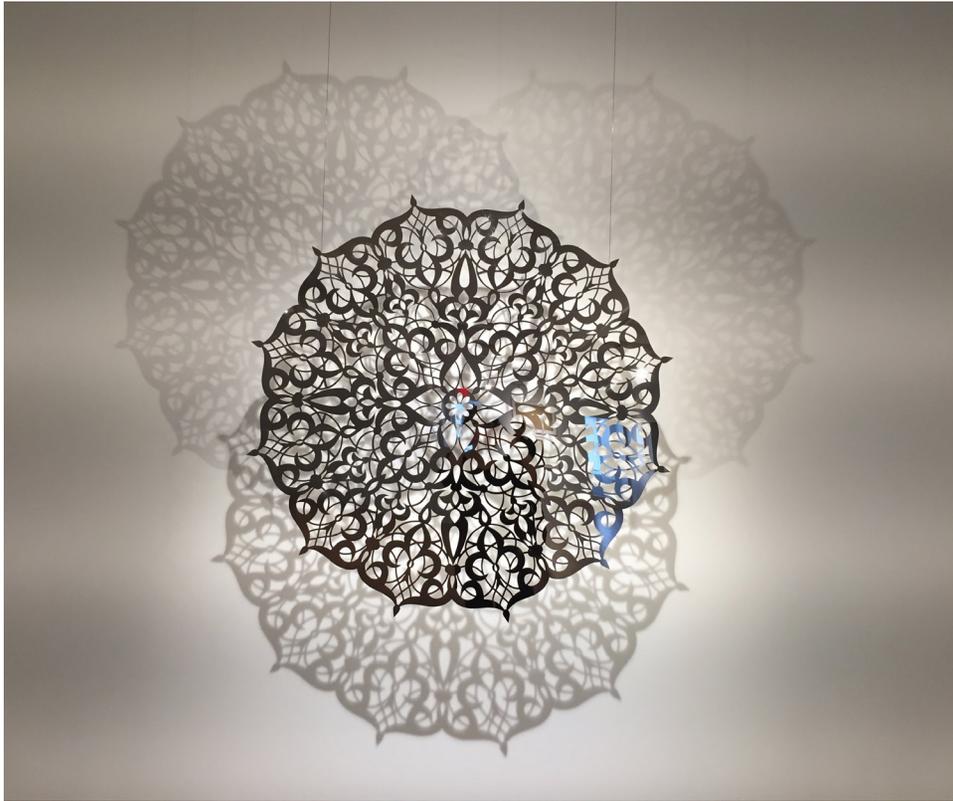
- What do you think the title of this sculpture (*F-Ezra: Made a Woman*) means? The name Ezra is the last name of her mother's family.
- What elements do you see in this sculpture?
- Does your family's cultural heritage have special headgear that is meaningful?

Spend some time talking with your family about the important parts of your heritage that make you who you are.



Camille Eskell, b. 1954, New York, NY

## Beitzel Gallery



**Anila Quayyum Agha, *Teardrop (After Robert Irwin)*, 2016**  
Polished stainless steel with mirror finish, halogen light, edition 2/8  
Courtesy of Talley Dunn Gallery, Dallas, TX

### Find this artwork.

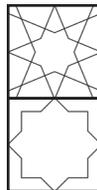
Anila Quayyum Agha is an immigrant from Pakistan, a country where women's rights have been repressed. Using light, reflection, and shadow, she created this artwork as a way to start discussions about society, politics, and boundaries. This piece is based on the intricate, interlacing patterns found in Islamic art and architecture, but she produced it in cut steel.



Anila Quayyum Agha, b. 1965, Lahore, Pakistan

- How does light transform this artwork? Do the shadows impact your experience of it?
- Does this piece feel delicate or strong? Discuss ways it might feel both.

Visit the Learning Center to try decorating Islamic patterns, cutting paper, and experimenting with light.



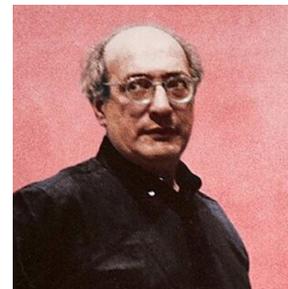
## Rothko Room



**Mark Rothko, *Untitled*, 1969**  
Oil on canvas  
Collection of Christopher Rothko

### Find this artwork.

Mark Rothko was born in Russia (now Latvia) in 1903 and moved with his family to America when he was ten. In college he studied painting, then became one of *The Ten*, a group of young artists who worked to promote abstract art.



Mark Rothko

- What do you notice about the colors? Name all the colors you see.
- Rothko said, "I'm interested only in expressing basic human emotions." What emotion do you feel looking at this painting?
- What shapes do you see in this painting? What do their edges look like?
- How do you experience this painting when you stand close to it? When you look from a distance?



**Ramekon O'Arwisters**, *Mending #34*, 2018  
Fabric, ceramic shards  
Courtesy of Patricia Sweetow Gallery, San Francisco, CA

**Find this artwork.**

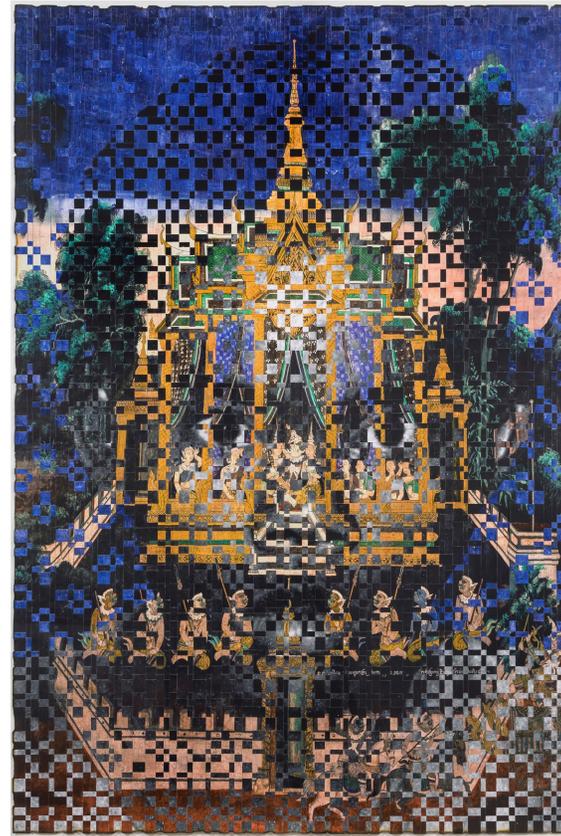
Ramekon O'Arwisters grew up in North Carolina during the 1960s. As a child, he spent a great deal of time making quilts with his paternal grandmother. For O'Arwisters, the broken ceramics in his *Mending* series stand in for the human body. When the human vessel is broken it needs to be mended, not neglected.

- The artist has used the fabric to fix, or mend, the ceramics. How many colors do you see in the fabric strips?
- What would it feel like to be wrapped by the fabric?
- Has a hug by a special person ever made you feel better?

Visit the Learning Center to create your own wrapped fiber sculpture.



Ramekon O'Arwisters, b. 1960, Kernersville, NC



**Dinh Q. Lê**, *Cracked Reamker*, 2017  
C-print, linen tape  
Courtesy of Shoshana Wayne Gallery, Santa Monica, CA

**Find this artwork.**

When photographer Dinh Q. Lê was 10 years old, his family fled Vietnam during the invasion of Cambodia and settled in Los Angeles. His photographic work represents and reflect his memories from this time in Southeast Asia. In this artwork Lê has combined a color photo of the Royal Palace in Cambodia and a black and white photo of prisoners.

- Stand back far enough to see a face, then move closer. What images do you see when you look closely?
- Can you figure out how this artwork was made? Hint—as a boy Lê's aunt taught him to do traditional Vietnamese weaving.

Visit the Learning center to make a paper weaving.



Dinh Q. Lê, b. 1968, Hà Tiên, Vietnam

Try the paper weaving project in the Learning Center.





**Faig Ahmed, *Hal*, 2016**  
Handmade woolen carpet, edition 2/3  
Courtesy of the Rodef Family Collection, San Diego, CA



**Jason Seife, *Ocean Bed*, 2016-2017**  
Oil and acrylic on canvas  
Courtesy of the Rodef Family Collection, San Diego, CA

**Compare and contrast these artworks.**

Faig Ahmed works with local weavers in his homeland of Azerbaijan to construct reinterpreted Middle Eastern carpets using traditional methods and materials.

Jason Seife was introduced to rug weaving by his Persian grandmother and grew up watching her make carpets. He translates his carpet designs into oil and acrylic paintings.

- What is traditional here, and what is reimaged?
- What materials do the two artists use?
- How does each material affect your experience of the artwork?
- What colors do you see in these two carpet interpretations?

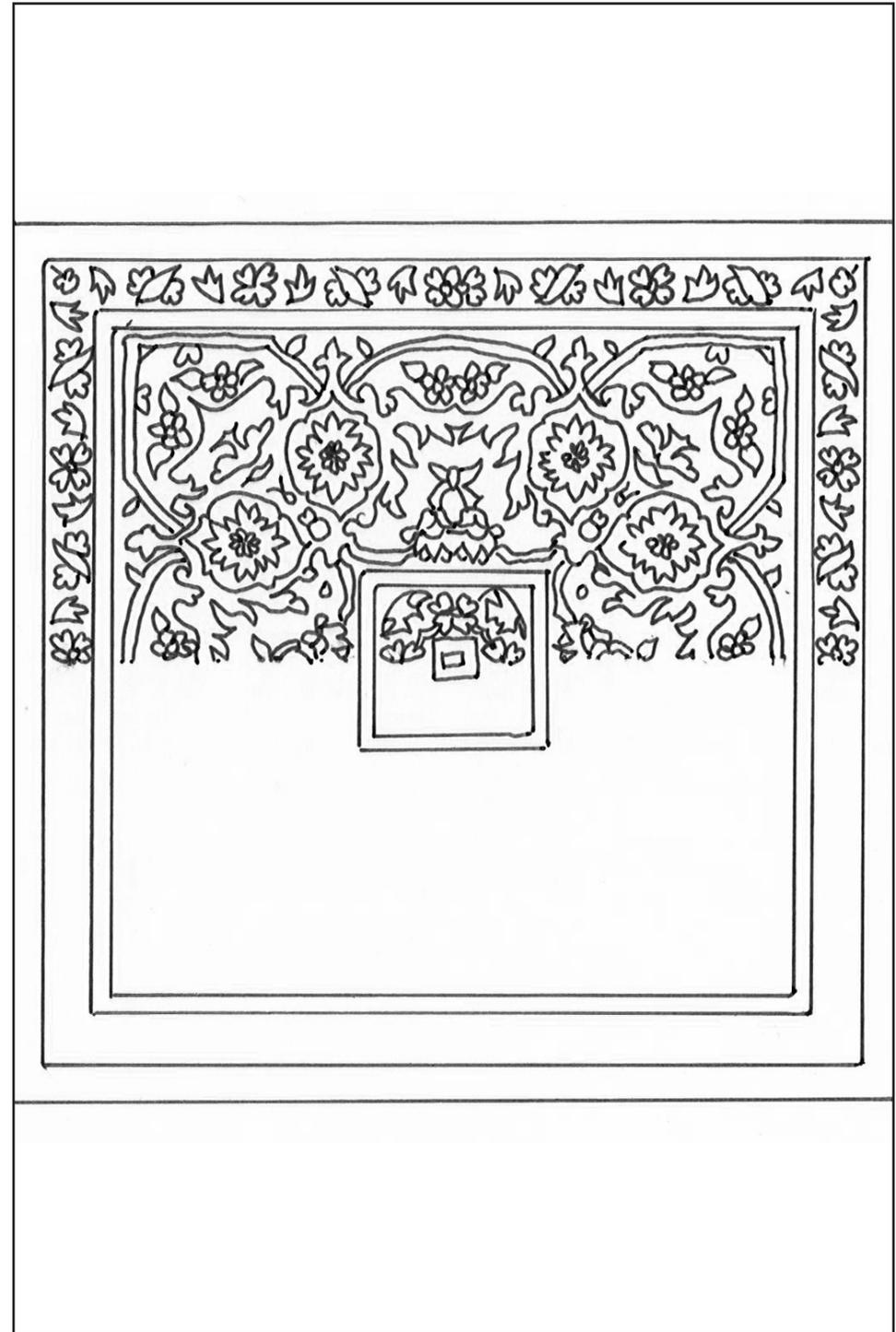


Faig Ahmed, b. 1982, Sumqayit, Azerbaijan



Jason Seife, b. 1989, Miami, FL

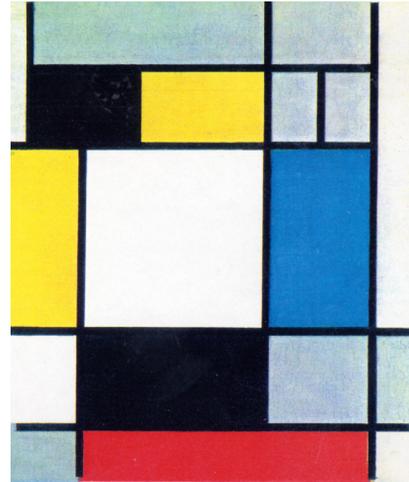
Finish designing the carpet on the right. Try to add something surprising. Explore color too.



## Atrium and Spot Gallery: Remy Jungerman



**Remy Jungerman**, *PROMISE V*, 2019  
Cotton textile, kaolin (pimba), yarn, nails, wood  
Courtesy of the artist and Fridman Gallery



**Piet Mondrian**, *Composition in Red, Yellow and Blue*, 1920  
Oil on canvas  
Municipal Museum, Amsterdam

### Find this artwork.

Remy Jungerman was born and raised in Surinam, a small country on the northeastern coast of South America, and now lives and works in Amsterdam. He uses traditional Surinamese materials in his artwork but is also influenced by the paintings of Dutch artist Piet Mondrian who reduced everything to geometric lines and shapes in his paintings.



Remy Jungerman

- What materials did the artist use in this sculpture? Hint—look at the label.
- How does Jungerman's piece compare with the painting by Mondrian?

Visit the Learning Center to create a geometric assemblage.

## Learning Center: Jeila Gueramian's Let's Step Inside



**Jeila Gueramian**, *Let's Step Inside*, 2022  
Mixed media  
Courtesy of the artist

### Let's Step Inside.

"I like to inspire exploration. I create alternate worlds and invite people to lose themselves in them: awaken their senses, feel like a kid, be in the moment, laugh or be a little scared, stop and ask a question, get involved in a fantasy, believe in the magical.

The found materials I use whether from my past or someone else's past are a catalyst point. These items often have a sense of comfort and help us recognize things that may have been a part of our childhood or past. This helps transport the viewer back to a time and place and feel those feelings all over again.

The subject matter of *Let's Step Inside* is about growth and change, moving us out of these last constrictive, dark years and into a lighter, positive future."

- Jeila Gueramian

- Look carefully around the room. There is so much to explore. How does being in the installation make you feel?
- How do the materials contribute to this feeling?
- Do you recognize anything in the installation?
- Study the light coming through the windows. Do you notice any shadows?
- Does this installation remind you of any of the artwork you saw in the galleries? If so, why?



Jeila Gueramian

Try moving around the magnetic pieces on the wall to make different designs and patterns.

# Learning Center: Jeila Gueramian's Let's Step Inside

Find these creatures.



Draw a picture of another creature you find.