

Mixed Media Song Art

Inspired by the Work of Floyd Newsum



Floyd Newsum, *Sirigu Purple Rain*, 2011. Oil and acrylic on paper with collage elements mounted on canvas. 65 x 64 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

Floyd Newsum is a painter and printmaker who also incorporated different materials into his work. His artist career spans four decades. His most recent work draws inspiration from West African art and while his works are playful in tone, his works look reference various subjects such as culture, politics, and history.

Sirigu Purple Rain (pictured above) was inspired by Sirigu painted homes in Ghana as well as his favorite song, “Purple Rain” by Prince. Notice that this painting does not literally depict purple rain drops, but rather captures the feeling of the song.

MATERIALS

- White or colored construction paper
- Collage elements such as magazine clippings, sequins, colored foam sheets, newspaper, tinsel paper, stickers or beads
- Glue
- Scissors
- Drawing materials such as colored pencils, crayons, markers, or tempera paint sticks (the more variety, the better) -- variation: use painting materials as well

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1.) Gather all of your materials.
- 2.) Think about what song you want to illustrate. You can choose your favorite song, a song you listened to recently, or you can listen to a song while you make your artwork as a source of inspiration.
- 3.) Create a mixed media drawing (or painting) with collage elements that represents the song you chose. Remember, when illustrating your song, think about how it makes you feel. What is the mood of the song? What colors best express that mood?

SHARE

Share your artwork with a friend, family member, educator, or caretaker. Tell them about the song you chose and how your artwork illustrates the emotion or mood that the song makes you feel. Tell them why you made certain choices such as why you chose certain patterns or colors or why you decided to lay out the design in a certain way.

We would love to see your masterpiece. Tag us on social media at @mmocamadison or use the tag #MMoCAKids.