Modern Sculpture

Constantin Brancusi
He was a Romanian-born sculptor who is widely regarded as one of the founding figures of modern sculpture. He broke sharply with the **realist tradition**, making **abstract sculptures**, chiefly in metal and stone, of great geometric simplicity.

**Constantin Brancusi, The Kiss, 1912. Limestone.**

Futurist Sculpture
Umberto Boccioni
He was an Italian painter and sculptor who like other **Futurists**, his work centered on the portrayal of movement (dynamism), speed, and technology.

**Umberto Boccioni, Unique Forms of Continuity in Space, Bronze, 1913.**

Surreal Sculpture
Meret Oppenheim
She was a German-born Swiss **Surrealist** artist and photographer.

**Meret Oppenheim, Object (Luncheon in Fur) 1936, Fur-covered Cup, Saucer & Spoon.**

1. Make a sketch outline of Constantin Brancusi’s The Kiss sculpture and describe the geometric shape that the artist uses. What effect does this shape have on the two figures? (3)

2. Describe how the shape of Umberto Boccioni's Unique Forms of Continuity in Space sculpture suggests dynamism and an urge towards progress? (1)

3. Look at Meret Oppenheim’s Object (Luncheon in Fur) from 1936. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from it and why? (2)
Alberto Giacometti

He was a Swiss sculptor, painter, and Surrealist who is known for his elongated sculptures. His haunting, anguished images have been described as perfect expressions of existentialist pessimism.

Alexander Calder

Alexander Calder was an American sculptor who created the mobile in Paris in the early 1930s.

Henry Moore

He was a British sculptor whose works, mostly semiabstract human figures, are characterized by smooth organic forms. Moore was asked to design a statue that would complement the flowing lines of City Hall. The Archer weighs 2.5 tones!

4. Make a sketch outline of the form of Alberto Giacometti’s Tall Figure sculpture from 1947. What mood/feeling do you get from it and why? (2)

mood/feeling:

5. Look at Calder’s Lobster Trap & Fish Tail mobile. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from it and why? (2)

mood/feeling:

why:

6. How does the shape of Henry Moore’s The Archer help convey a sense of movement? (1)

Henry Moore

Modern Sculpture

Pop Art Sculpture

Claes Oldenburg
He is a Swedish born American sculptor known for his “soft sculptures.” The fries are transformed into a satirical emblem of the basest level of American culture: greasy fast food.

Claes Oldenburg, Shoestring Potatoes Falling From Bag. 1966.

Assemblage Sculpture

Louise Nevelson
She painted everything a flat black, white or gold color, she unified the many different parts of her work. Her sculptural style of assemblage is a kind of three-dimensional collage.

Installation Sculpture

Judy Chicago
Her works is always involved with advancing the cause of women’s rights. Her site-specific installation sculpture is a gigantic triangular arrangement of place settings called The Dinner Party. Each space is designed to represent one great woman in history.


NAME:_________________________

1. What kind of social commentary is Pop artist Claes Oldenburg creating in his Shoestring Potatoes Falling From Bag sculpture? (1)

2. How has Louise Nevelson unified the various forms and shapes in her Royal Tide I, gilded wood sculpture? (1)

3. Look at Judy Chicago’s The Dinner Party sculpture from 1979 and describe how the artist unifies the various different place settings in the piece? (1)
4. Why is Christo’s Running Fence Project for Sonoma County & Marin County considered an environmental sculpture? (1)

5. What kind of mood/feeling do you get from looking at Duane Hanson’s Supermarket Lady sculpture and why? (2)

6. What comment do you think Duane Hanson is making in his fiberglass life size sculpture Supermarket lady from 1970 on the American way of life? (1)

7. From this file select one piece of modern sculpture that you think is the most artistically successful and explain why. (2)