

ALEXANDER CALDER: A BALANCING ACT

October 15, 2009–April 11, 2010

BOOKS FOR STUDENTS

Alexander Calder by Venezia, Mike. (New York: Children's Press, 1998). **N 6537 C33 V46**

Examines the life and work of the twentieth-century artist Alexander Calder, famous for creating the moving sculptures known as mobiles. Includes color reproductions.

Alexander Calder and His Magical Mobiles by Lipman, Jean and Aspinwall, Margaret. (New York: Hudson Hills Press, Inc., 1981). **N 6537 C33 L57**

The story of the life and work of the man who invented the mobile, written for young readers; includes color photographs of 40 of his works and a guide to where some works may be seen.

The Calder Game by Balliett, Blue; Helquist, Brett (Illustrator). (New York, NY: Scholastic Press, 2008). **PZ 7 B2128**

When seventh-grader Calder Pillay disappears from a remote English village—along with an Alexander Calder sculpture to which he has felt strangely drawn—his friends Petra and Tommy fly from Chicago to help his father find him.

How Artists See Play by Carroll, Colleen. (New York: Abbeville Kids, 2001). **N 8236 P47 C37**

Interactive, inquiry-based book designed to teach children about art and the world. Part of a series, this book shows play depicted in 16 works of art.

Sandy's Circus: A Story about Alexander Calder by Stone, Tanya Lee; Kulikov, Boris (Illustrator). (New York, NY: Viking, 2008). **NB 237 C28 S86**

As a boy, Sandy was always fiddling with odds and ends, making objects for friends. When he got older he started creating wire sculptures. Sandy made a lion. Next came a lion cage. Before he knew it, he had an entire circus and was traveling between Paris and New York performing a brand-new kind of art for amazed audiences.

Sculpture: Behind the Scenes by Pekarik, Andrew. (New York: Hyperion Books for Children, 1992). **NB 1143 P45**

For ages 8 to 12. Leads readers on an adventure in discovering the elements that make sculpture such an exciting art form, with examples from the works of famous sculptors. Discusses sculpture from a sculptor's viewpoint and uses specific examples to point out how to discover the details in a sculpture.

RESOURCES FOR EDUCATORS

Books & Resource Guides

Calder at Home: The Joyous Environment of Alexander Calder by Guerrero, Pedro E. (New York: Stewart, Tabori & Chang, 1998). **NB 237 C28 G83**

The living and working environments of Alexander and Louisa Calder and a candid glimpse of their lives through photographs taken over a 13-year period by photographer Pedro E. Guerrero.

Calder Sculpture by Rower, Alexander S.C. (Washington, DC: National Gallery of Art, 1998). **NB 237 C28 R68**

An account of Alexander Calder's sculptural progression from figurative wire sculpture to abstract mobiles and stabiles to large public works.

Calder: Great Modern Masters by Lemaire, Gerard-Georges. (New York: Cameo/Abrams, 1998). **NB 237 C28 A4**

A biography of the artist and his styles, with a brief bibliography.

Essential Alexander Calder by Greenfeld, Howard. (New York: Harry N. Abrams, Inc., 2003). **NB 237 C28 G74**

Become an expert on Alexander Calder in five minutes! Did you know that Calder earned a degree in mechanical engineering? That both his father and his grandfather were well-known sculptors? That Calder created a miniature circus that still delights those who view it?

Great American Artists for Kids: Hands-on Art Experiences in the Styles of Great American Masters by Kohl, MaryAnn F.; Solga, Kim. (Bellingham, WA: Bright Ring Publishing, 2008). **N 6536 K63**

Introduces 75 American artists through open-ended art activities, allowing children to explore art styles from colonial times to the present.

Make Sculptures! by Solga, Kim. (Cincinnati, OH: North Light Books, 1992). **TT 870 S63**

This book features 11 sculpting activities that can be done with general materials found right in the home. Projects involve methods such as collage and assemblage, soft sculpture, subtractive sculpture, architectural sculpture, Pop Art, clay, additive, textile and paper sculpting.

Modern Sculpture: A Concise History by Read, Herbert. (London: Thames & Hudson, 1985). **NB 198 R4**

A comprehensive guide to modern sculpture, from Rodin to the present day.

Olympic Sculpture Park by Corrin, Lisa Graziose et. al. (Seattle, WA: Seattle Art Museum, 2006). N 745 S4 O59

Map and guide to the Olympic Sculpture Park with essays on the different works of art.

Sculpture Since 1945 by Causey, Andrew. (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1998). NB 198 C35

A holistic account of the development of post-war sculpture. Examines innovative and avant-garde works in relation to contemporary events and the changing functions of museums. Explores the use of everyday objects and the importance of sculptural context.

Media (CDs/Videos/Posters/Slides)

20th-Century American Art (Washington, DC: National Gallery of Art, 2006). VIDEO N 6512.5 N37

Five presentations (DVD format): Mobile by Alexander Calder (24 min.); David Smith, American Sculptor, 1906–1965 (28 min.); Willem de Kooning: Paintings (12 min.); The Art of Romare Bearden (30 min.); Roy Lichtenstein: The Art of Graphic Image (25 min.).

Alexander Calder: One of the Twentieth Century's Most Important Artists by Sherman, Roger. (American Masters Production, 1998). VIDEO N 6537 C28 S43

Video documentary of the internationally acclaimed sculptor Alexander Calder. 60 min. VHS Format.

Getting to Know Shape and Form in Art: An Instructional Program for Grades K–4 by Getting to Know, Inc. (Getting to Know, Inc., 2006). VIDEO N 7380 A78

Covers basic information about shape and form in art for early elementary students. Colorful animated sequences define shape and form. Other topics include: geometric and organic shapes, shape and form in the world around us, shape in painting, form in sculpture, shape and pattern, negative and positive shapes, and shape as a tool for drawing. ca. 24 min. DVD Format.

Making Art (Washington, DC: National Gallery of Art, 2005). VIDEO N 8520 N37

Six presentations (DVD format): Seeing Color (27 min.); Masters of Illusion (30 min.); Art + Science = Conservation (19 min.); Introduction to Sculpture (19 min.); James McNeill Whistler: His Etchings (27 min.); Roy Lichtenstein: The Art of the Graphic Image (25 min.).

Mobiles: How to Create Them by Rose, Timothy. (Glenview, IL: Crystal Productions, 2000).

VIDEO NB 1315 R67

Mobile sculptor Timothy Rose introduces the viewer to the history of mobiles originally developed by Alexander Calder. He then demonstrates how to construct three basic types of mobiles: articulated mobiles, tree mobiles and spiral mobiles. 35 min. DVD Format.

Modern Art Poster Set (Orem, UT: Art Visuals). PRINT N 6490 M62 A84

30 large cards displaying different styles of modern art.

Outreach Suitcase

Modern and Contemporary Sculpture Outreach Suitcase (Seattle, WA: Seattle Art Museum, 2009).

www.seattleartmuseum.org/Learn/schoolteacher/FlatSuitcases.asp

This new outreach suitcase replaces the Modern Art Outreach Suitcase and will provide an exploration into modern and contemporary sculpture and its diverse settings and purposes. Drawing from works in the Seattle Art Museum's own permanent collection, this suitcase incorporates replica sculptures, a CD of related images, and suggestions for hands-on activities.

Online Resources

Alexander Calder: 1898–1976: Virtual Tour by the National Gallery of Art.

www.nga.gov/exhibitions/caldwel.htm

Virtual tour of the 1998 exhibition. Marking the centennial of the sculptor's birth, the exhibition was the first major retrospective of Calder's work in the United States since his death in 1976. Included were 198 sculptures, 5 related paintings, 24 items of jewelry, 31 works on paper, and 2 toys.

Alexander Calder Papers, 1926–1967 by the Archives of American Art, Smithsonian Institution.

www.aaa.si.edu/collectionsonline/caldalex

The papers of abstract kinetic artist and sculptor Alexander Calder, from 1926 to 1967. Found within the papers are scattered biographical materials, correspondence, printed materials, photographs, scattered prints and sketches by Calder, and a scrapbook. The papers have been scanned in their entirety and total 1,086 images.

Calder Curriculum by the Calder Foundation.

<http://calder.org/foundation/page/education.html>

This curriculum is intended as an outline that teachers and museum educators can use to teach children about the life and art of Alexander Calder in conjunction with a Calder exhibition. It is designed to be a one-day workshop for students but can also be modified to become a multi-session program.

Working with Sculpture by the J. Paul Getty Museum Education Department.

www.getty.edu/education/for_teachers/curricula/sculpture/

Explore sculpture with your students by examining the distinct ways in which artists have explored three-dimensional form throughout art history.