

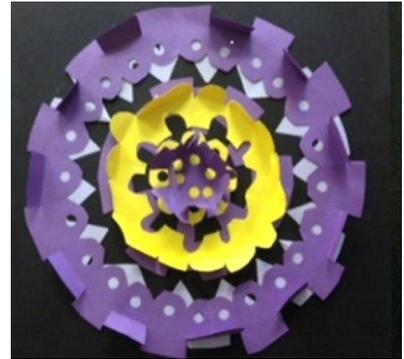
LESSON PLAN: Symmetry in Art

By Wendy Ping, May 2013

Learn about artistic uses of shapes and create your own collage with geometric patterns.

Key Questions/Ideas

- How do artists create balance in their art?
- What is the difference between symmetrical, asymmetrical and radial balance?
- Understand art in relation to history and culture



Objective- Introduce students to the different types of balance. Give examples and discuss their similarities and differences.

Tour the museum galleries and art collection on campus looking for artwork in which the composition depicts: symmetrical / bilateral balance, and examples of radial balance, as well as positive and negative space. Students will understand the difference between representational artwork and abstract artwork.

Introduction/Studio- Instructor will demonstrate the process in creating a kirigami which depicts radial and symmetrical balance. Using 2 different concentric circle templates and a pencil, students will each trace and cut out 6 circles of construction paper or poster board in a variety of colors. Fold circles in half, and cut patterns on the inside and outside of the circles. Fold some for dimension. Starting with the center, layer and glue or tape on to another piece of colored paper. Ask students:

- How could you make your design appear naturalistic? Geometric?
- How could you create harmony or contrast?
- How could you create more details to create interest?

Vocabulary

Balance

Symmetry

Asymmetry

Radial

Representational

Concentric

Abstract

Positive Space

Negative Space

Assessment

Review vocabulary and artists from the gallery tour using the Review Activity sheet. Have each student gather around a display table and share their finished artworks. Find similarities and differences among the completed work. Review vocabulary while discussing work as a group.

Materials

concentric circle templates-2 per student so they each have 6 sizes

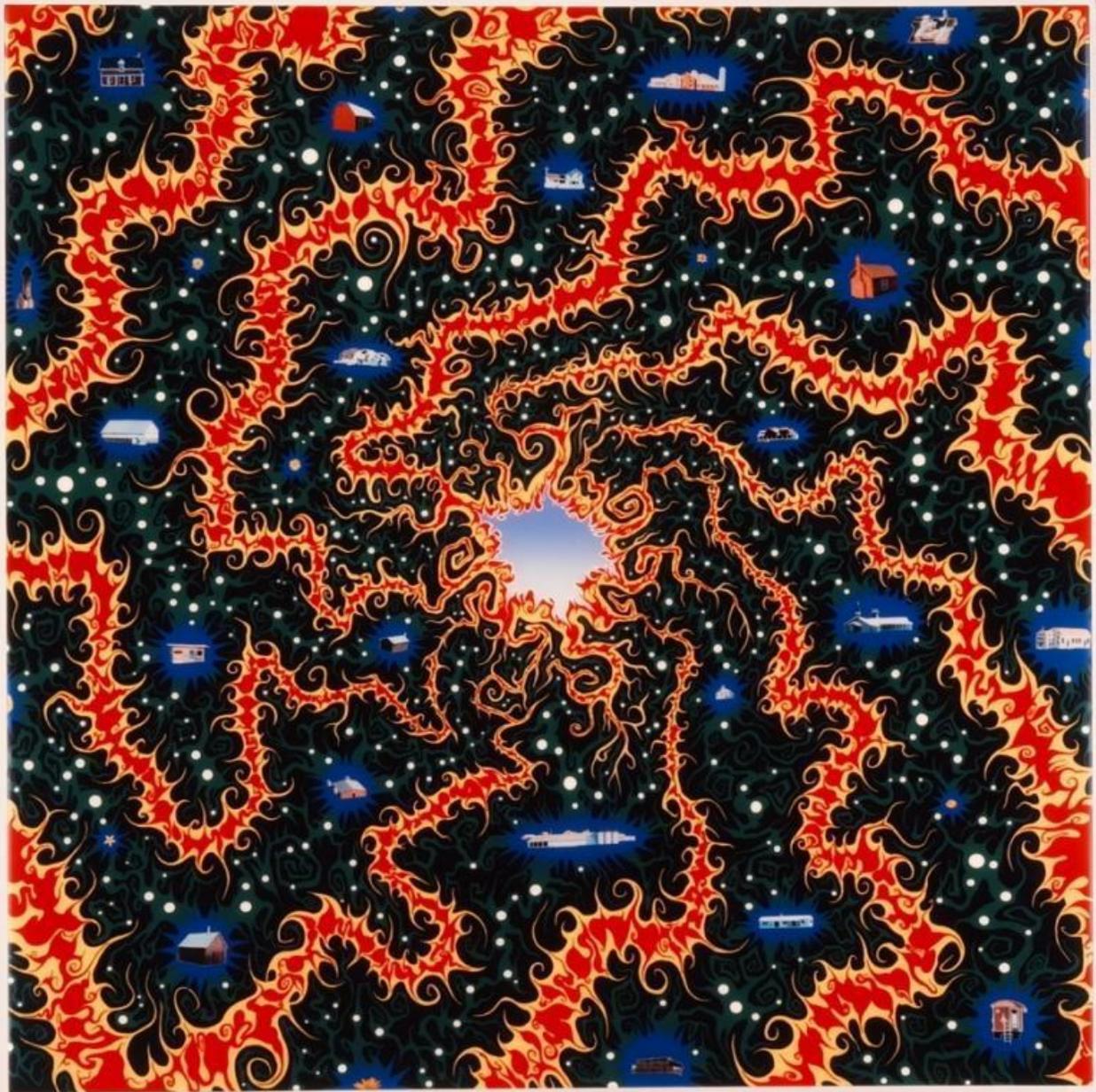
glue or double stick tape

scissors (standard and decorative edge)

heavy construction paper or two-tone poster board

hand held single hole punch (one per student)

Tour artwork images:



Fred Tomaselli (American, b. 1956)
Cyclone of Paradises, 2001
Acrylic, photographs and resin on wood panel
Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2001.22



Asad Faulwell (American, b. 1982)

Mujahidat #11, 2010

Acrylic and paper on canvas

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2011.12

Gift of Marti and Tony Oppenheimer and the Oppenheimer Brothers Foundation



Portia Munson (American, b. 1961)

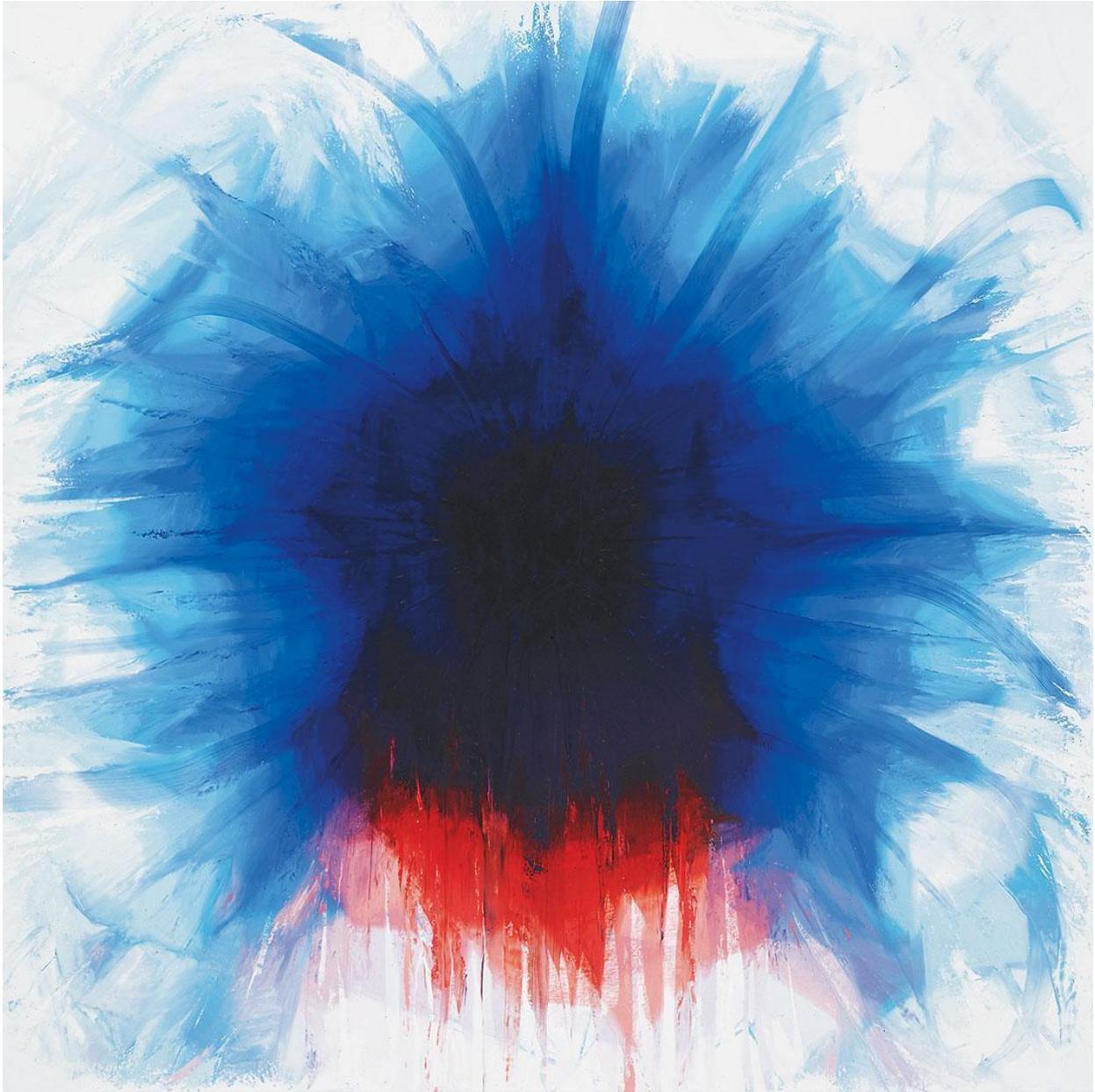
Chinese Lantern, 2005

Scanograph: pigmented ink on rag paper

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, gift of Marti and Tony Oppenheimer



Betty Woodman (American, b. 1930 - d. 2019)
Kimono Vases "Plum Blossom", 1991
Earthenware, glaze
Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 1991.10



Marc Handelman (American, b. 1975)

Miasma (2), 2006

Oil on canvas

Collection Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art, 2006.66

Gift of Marti and Tony Oppenheimer and the Oppenheimer Brothers Foundation