



OGDEN MUSEUM
OF SOUTHERN ART
EDUCATION DEPT

Mixed Media Collage: Creating Symbols of Strength in Times of Struggle Inspired by Thornton Dial



Thornton Dial, *Struggling Tiger in Hard Times*, 1991, Oil, rope carpet, tin, carpet and industrial sealing compound on canvas mounted on wood, Gift of Calynne and Lou Hill in honor of Director William Andrews

Thornton Dial's work often draws from his personal experiences of living as an African American man in the South, depicting a range of subjects from race relations to romance. Despite lacking a basic education and formal training, Dial has risen to prominence and museums across the country hold his works in their collections. A tiger motif frequently appears in his work, a symbol of the African American struggle to obtain equal rights in the United States. He is known for the use of industrial materials and found objects in his work.

Create your own symbol of strength using found objects.

Instructions

Step 1: Use the template of the tiger provided or draw your own symbol.

Step 2: What symbolizes strength to you? Maybe it's an animal or object? Using a marker draw your symbol.

Step 3: Create texture on your piece. Use a glue stick to glue materials and objects to your piece. Think about the types of materials and colors you want to use.

