



OGDEN MUSEUM  
OF SOUTHERN ART

## O-original Art Activities: Paper Sculpture Inspired by Jeffrey Cook



Jeffrey Cook, *Vanessa's Secrets*, 1999-2001, Mixed media, 2003.89.1

**Jeffrey Cook** was a New Orleans artist from the Central City neighborhood. He was known for his use of recycled and found objects in his sculptural works.

**Create a sculptural piece that has a special secret surprise within it.**

**SEE JEFFREY COOK'S VANESSA'S SECRETS IN WHAT MUSIC IS WITHIN: BLACK ABSTRACTION FROM THE PERMANENT COLLECTION AT THE OGDEN MUSEUM OF SOUTHERN ART. CHECK OUT [OGDEN MUSEUM ONLINE](#) FOR MORE RESOURCES!**

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL [EDUCATION@OGDENMUSEUM.ORG](mailto:EDUCATION@OGDENMUSEUM.ORG).**

### Supplies

Recycled Boxes, Paper, Tape, Scissors, Pencil, Markers

### Instructions

**Step 1:** Think about a secret message you want to send to a friend or family member. Use a pencil to write this message on a piece of paper or use markers to draw a secret image for your friend.

**Step 2:** Collect small cardboard boxes. Ask a parent or guardian before using any materials found in your house.

**Step 3:** What are your friend's favorite colors? If you have color paper, use their favorite color paper to wrap the boxes. If you don't have color paper, wrap the boxes with whatever paper you have. Use tape to hold the paper in place.

**Step 4:** Use markers to decorate your boxes. Don't forget to put your message or drawing into one of the boxes and don't seal this box all the way.

**Step 5:** Think about the composition of your sculpture. Arrange your boxes in different ways. Once you have decided on a composition use tape to tape the boxes to each other. If you have a piece of cardboard large enough, tape the boxes to the cardboard as a backing.

**Step 6:** Give your special sculpture to your friend or family member. Give them a hint as to which box their surprise is in.

### Vocabulary

**Abstract** - an artwork that is comprised of shapes and colors

**Found Object** - a thing that someone else has given or thrown away that is often repurposed by artists

**Sculpture** - an artwork made from materials such as glass, wood, clay, metal that is 3D



