



OGDEN MUSEUM  
OF SOUTHERN ART

## O-original Art Activities: Wooden Sculpture Inspired by John Barnes



John Barnes, *Doe Poppin' II*, 2015, Red oak and plywood, 2018.1.1

**John Barnes** is a sculptor who predominately creates wood assemblages. Barnes first took an interest in art when he enrolled in the Baton Rouge public school system, but his passion flourished while enrolled at Southern A&M University. Using wood found in his Algiers neighborhood, Barnes pieces the debris and refuse into intricate designs influenced by racial politics, gentrification and income inequality. New Orleans and the Mississippi Delta region, more broadly, form the backdrop for the artist's work, while the material, subject matter and final display are directly of the place.

**Create a sculptural piece that utilizes repetition and pattern.**

**SEE JOHN BARNES' *DOE POPPIN' II* 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

Cardboard, Popsicle Sticks, Hot Glue or Tape, Scissors

### Instructions

**Step 1:** Start with a rectangular piece of cardboard. This will be your backing.

**Step 2:** Use scissors to cut another piece of cardboard into strips.

**Step 3:** Think about how you want to arrange your strips of cardboard and popsicle sticks on the backboard. Try different arrangements, what pattern and lines are you creating? Try adding depth by layering the pieces.

**Step 4:** Once you have decided on your composition ask an adult to help you use hot glue to secure the pieces to the backboard. If you don't have hot glue, white glue or tape can be substituted.

### 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



