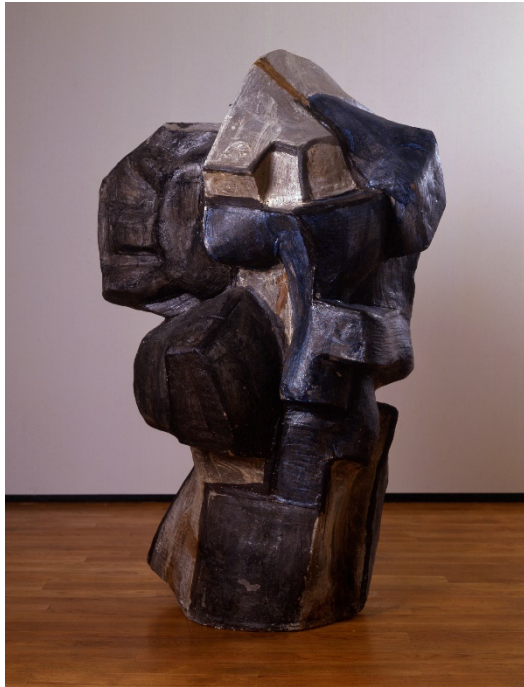




Studio Sunday on the Front Steps September 2016 Activity Plastalina

Sculpt an abstract figure in Plastalina (pigmented, oil-based modeling compound), inspired by Peter Voulkos' *Sitting Bull* (1959), on view in SBMA's ongoing exhibition *Highlights of the Permanent Collection*.



For this project you will need:

- Plastalina (oil-based, non-hardening modeling clay)
- Popsicle stick or craft stick
- Work surface or chip board base

Let's begin!

1. Create a base for your sculpture either by twisting sticks of clay together or creating a sturdy shape to build upon.
2. Take smaller pieces of clay and create shapes. Attach the shapes to the base to build your sculpture.
3. Once you have attached the shapes in a way you like, use a Popsicle stick or craft stick to blend the connection between them to make the joint more stable.
4. Use the edge of the Popsicle stick or craft stick to define the edges of the shapes and the joints where they connect; in the inspiration piece, you can see that Peter Voulkos uses paint to show the edges of the geometric shapes.

Peter Voulkos, *Sitting Bull*, 1959. Stoneware, wheel-thrown and paddled parts, slip and glaze. SBMA, Bequest of Hans G.M. de Schulthess.

Tips & Tricks

- When the clay gets cold, it can be difficult to work with. Try rolling the clay in your hands for a few minutes to warm it up before working with it again.
- Because this style of modeling clay does not harden, you can make changes to your sculpture hours, days, or even weeks later!
- Turn your sculpture while you are building it to see it from different angles. If you don't like the way an attached piece looks, just pull it off and try it somewhere else. Try creating open spaces within the sculpture for some more unique views.
- Our Docents say that from a certain angle, you can see the profile of *Sitting Bull*, the namesake of the sculpture. What do you see in your sculpture? Do you see different things from different angles?