

Art Reference and Inspiration: Collaborative Projects

In facilitating this multidisciplinary collaborative workshop in the prisons, we wanted to inspire the artist participants by sharing projects that could be made into larger, group projects. Our team came up with ideas of approaches to art that would lend themselves to collaborative pieces. Then we researched to find strong examples of these approaches in both contemporary art and in art from other prisons.

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Table of Contents

Mobiles.....	4
Paper Stage.....	9
3D Mapping, Cities, and Structures.....	16
Dioramas.....	21

No great artist ever sees things as they really are. If they did, they would cease to be an artist.
— Oscar Wilde

Art is not a handicraft, it is the transmission of feeling the artist has expressed.
— Leo Tolstoy

All children are artists. The problem is how to remain an artist once they grow up.
— Pablo Picasso

I am enough of an artist to draw freely upon my imagination.
— Albert Einstein

My role in society, or any artist's or poet's role, is to try and express what we all feel. Not to tell people how to feel. Not as a preacher, not as a leader, but as a reflection of us all.
— John Lennon

The marble not yet carved can hold the form of every thought the greatest artist has.
— Michelangelo

I am a poor student sitting at the feet of giants, yearning for their wisdom and begging for lessons that might one day make me a complete artist, so that if all goes well, I may one day sit beside them.
— Rod Taylor

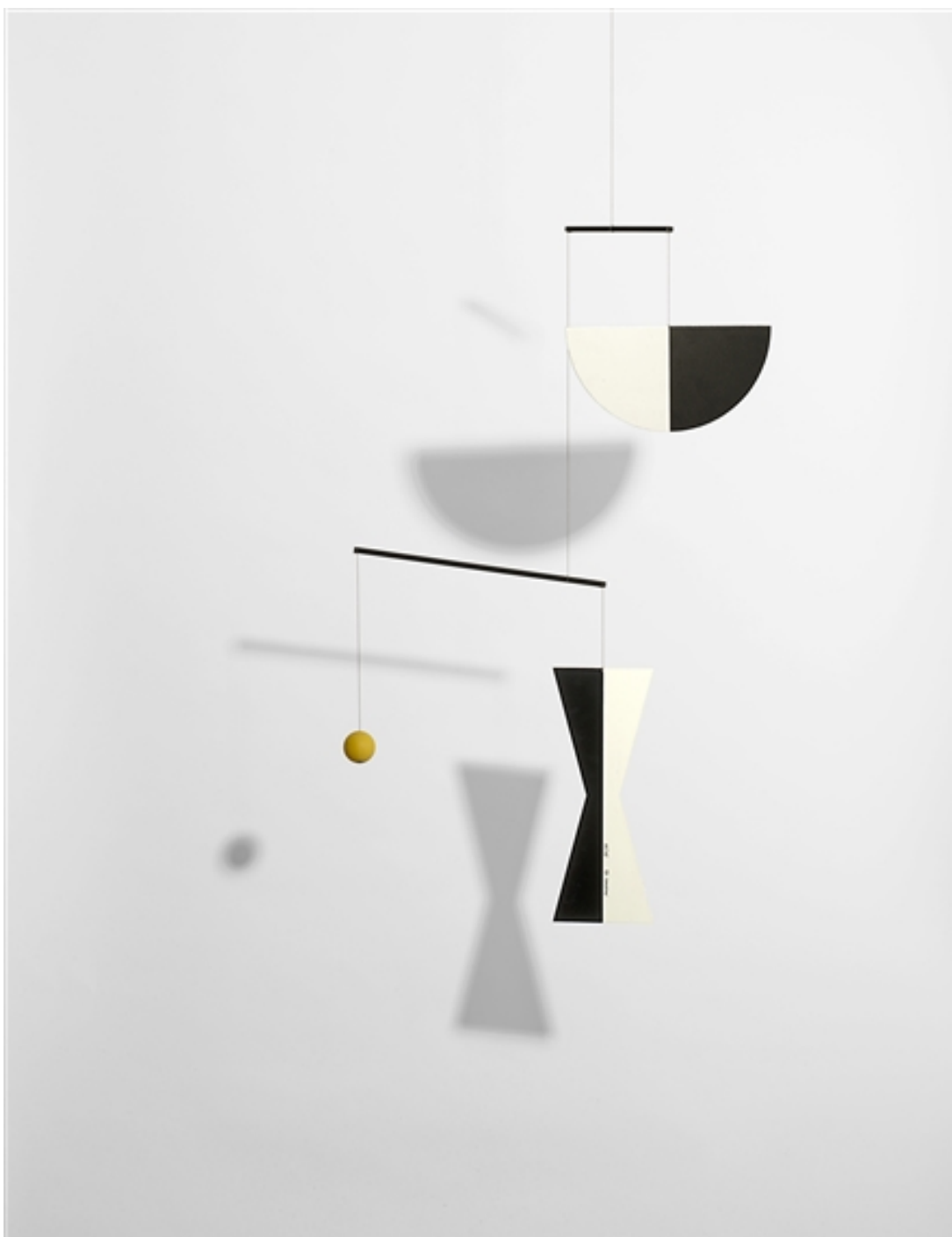
Mobiles



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at Donovan State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Bruno Munari
Macchina inutile max bill, 1933
Colored cardboard and wire



Alexander Calder
Rouge Triomphant, 1959–1965
Sheet metal, rod, and paint

Paper Stage



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Structure construction by an art class at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Structure construction by an art class at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Frank Gehry
Paper Stage design for a 2008 performance of *Don Giovanni* by Mozart



Frank Gehry
Paper Stage design for a 2008 performance of *Don Giovanni* by Mozart

3D Mapping Cities Structures



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



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Photo by Peter Merts



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Ana Serrano
Cartonlandia, 2007
Cardboard and paper

Dioramas



Scale replica of his cell created by Adam Hinds, at California State Prison Sacramento
Photo by Peter Merts



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



The Cell; by Roy Gilstrap and Gary Harrell at San Quentin State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



Artwork created by Arts in Corrections classes at Donovan State Prison
Photo by Peter Merts



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