

Week 3

Last class - El Anatsui

Mix and Match

Words:

Acclaimed

Foremost

Crumpled

Transcend

Contort

Plaster

Scaffolding

Withstand

Dilapidation

Flux

Definitions

A. To resist pressure or damage; to endure

B. A state of decay or falling apart

C. Publicly praised or admired, especially by experts

D. To go beyond normal limits or expectations

E. Bent, crushed, or wrinkled out of shape

F. Constant change or movement

G. A soft material used for casting that hardens as it dries

H. The most important or leading of its kind

I. A supporting framework, often temporary or internal

J. To twist or bend into an unusual or strained shape

Let's watch a video

El Anatsui: Studio Process

1. How far is the studio from the university campus?
2. Why does Anatsui insist on silence in the studio?
3. About how many bottle caps can be in one “block”?
4. Why does he take photographs of different arrangements?



EL ANATSUI
STUDIO PROCESS

art21 EP

El Anatsui: Studio Process



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2. Why does Anatsui insist on silence in the studio?
3. About how many bottle caps can be in one "block"?
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Last class - Group Essay

Class Discussion

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Group 1: Explain what sculpture as a “verb” means.

Group 2: How is shifting forms representative of shifting perspectives of culture of self?

Group 3: How does culture help shape Anatsui’s choices of materials and form?

Group 4: What allows art to be always “In a state of flux”?

Group 1: Explain what sculpture as a “verb” means.

Group 2: How is shifting forms representative of shifting perspectives of culture of self?

Group 3: How does culture help shape Anatsui's choices of materials and form?

Group 4: What allows art to be always “In a state of flux”?

**Let's dive further
into each of his art
pieces:**

Palettes of Ambition - Carnegie Museum of Art



- May 2023 (197 × 389 in 500.38 × 988.06 cm)
- Metal Scraps and Bottle Caps
- Five years in the making
- Compels viewers to consider impact.
- Undulations in sculpture

Palettes of Ambition - Carnegie Museum of Art



The Anthropocene:

“The current era in our geological history – beginning in the mid-20th century – when human activities began making a profound impact on Earth’s geology and ecosystems.”

Palettes of Ambition - Carnegie Museum of Art



Anatsui's work, located at the museum's front entrance, welcomes the public into the museum.

It invites viewers to reflect on questions around materiality, history and the power dynamics that underlie notions of wealth and value.

It also asks viewers to consider the following: whose ambition does this work allude to?

Grammar Time!

How do you re-write the underlined segments in **Passive Voice**?

Let's watch

Palettes of Ambition

As you watch:

1. Why do you think it is important to celebrate sustainability in art?
2. What are some other ways art can be more sustainable?
3. Think about the team that helped assemble the installation. How might this play on the idea of “protecting the environment”?

Palettes of Ambition - Carnegie Museum of Art



As you watch:

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Behind the Red Moon - The Tate Modern

- Liquor bottle tops, crushed metal fragments, connected by copper wire.
- A “symphonic sculpture”, seemingly floating across the space.
- Free-flow challenges industrial scale.
- Logos speak to social and material life as commodities.
- Products of global industry built on colonial trade routes.

Behind the Red Moon - The Tate Modern



Behind the Red Moon - The Tate Modern



In Groups, read the following texts:

Act 1 - The Red Moon

Act 2 - The World

Act 3 - The Wall

Behind the Red Moon – The Tate Modern

Summarize your article:

1. What was the inspiration behind it?
2. What is its connect to the human experience?

Discuss with other groups what might be the connection between all pieces.

Homework:

Writing Prompt

- Using what you have learned about **El Anatsui**, write a persuasive paragraph or short letter convincing a museum to feature his work.
- In your response, be sure to:
 - Describe **who El Anatsui is** as an artist
 - Explain **how he creates his artworks** and what makes his process unique
 - Discuss **it's relation to the Human Experience**
 - Explain **how his work fosters the importance of sustainability**
- **Due on Cursus – 150-200 words**