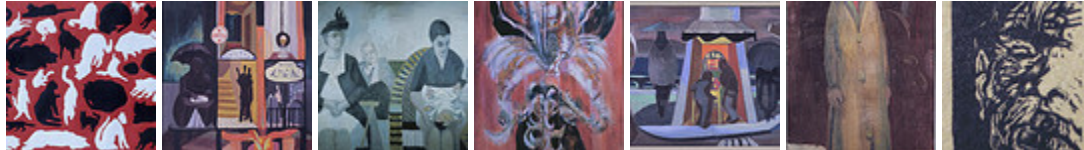




Artist Name: Jack McLarty



Biography:

Jack McLarty has lived most of his life in Portland, Oregon. His family moved to Portland from Seattle in 1921. After attending the Museum Art School, he left Portland in 1940 to study at the American Artists School in New York. At the end of two years, he decided New York did not suit him as a permanent home and returned to Portland. By 1945 he had reconnected with the Museum Art School accepting a teaching fellowship in lithography and joined the regular faculty in 1947. He opened the Image Gallery in 1961 with his wife Barbara and for over thirty years it was a major part of the Portland art scene. He traveled to Europe for the first time in 1963 and studied with the Belgian printmaker Paul Franck. In the following decades he would travel and work with a variety of artists in Japan and Mexico.

McLarty's work with Mexican artists has developed a strong interest in folk art and describes his work as surrealistic. He has also been influenced by: Hieronymous Bosch, the Brueghels, Diego Rivera, Jose Clemente Orozco, Max Beckman and 20th century Japanese printmakers. Themes in his work refer to the conflict between civilized and brute impulses and show that nothing is quite what it appears. Urban Portland and the Willamette River are common subjects that are presented in a fantastical, dream-like manner. Games, sports, toys, and children are frequent images that he transforms into archetypes conveying a message about the dual nature of humans and the worlds we have created. McLarty is represented in numerous collections including: the Salem Art Association, the Hallie Ford Museum, the Portland Art Museum, the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art, the Seattle Art Museum and the Smithsonian. He has also been commissioned for public pieces such as the stained glass window at Sacred Heart Chapel in Newport and murals at: City Hall, Civic Auditorium, Buckman School, and Laurelhurst School all located in Portland.

Online Curriculum:

[Intercultural Connections](#) (pdf download)—Level: Grades 4-10

This lesson plan explores the relationship between the person and the environment. By exploring Folk Art from various cultures, students will contemplate the historical link between a culture's art and stories. After experiencing the printmaking process, students will explore their own symbolic imagery.

Oregon Standards Connection: Social Studies (History and Geography), Arts (Aesthetics & Art Criticism, Historical & Cultural Perspectives, Create, Present, Perform), English/Language Arts (Reading)

[Our Oregon History](#)(pdf download)—Level: Grades 4-10

This lesson plan encourages us to look closely at our local Oregon environment by analyzing McLarty's Portland City Hall panels. Students will explore, through drawing, several historical ideas such as river and land traffic, as well as important local events.

Oregon Standards Connection: Social Studies (History and Geography), Arts (Aesthetics & Art Criticism, Historical & Cultural Perspectives, Create, Present, Perform), English/Language Arts (Reading)

[Painting Is My Language](#) (pdf download)—Level: Grades 5-12

"It is not something separate, but is the language that I deal in and look for and say. To try to transpose it into words doesn't work very well for what you are thinking about." – Jack McLarty

This lesson plan explores our own personal visual language. Students will explore their environment by transforming the landscape into drawings which they will keep in a sketchbook. Through careful consideration of composition, color and unity; students transform their sketches into images that reflect their personal visual language. Students will also look at the extension of personal artwork in addition to the gallery and its motivations.

Oregon Standards Connection: Social Studies (History and Geography), Arts (Aesthetics & Art Criticism, Historical & Cultural Perspectives, Create, Present, Perform), English/Language Arts (Reading)

[Scale Drawing Lesson](#)(pdf download)—Level: Grades 4-6

Jack McLarty utilizes a sketchbook to capture self-generated ideas that will aid him in future work. Students will learn how artists use sketches and scale drawings to create completed works of art.

Oregon Standards Connection: Mathematics (Calculations and Estimations), Arts (Aesthetics & Art Criticism, Historical & Cultural Perspectives, Create, Present, Perform)

[The Water Cycle Lesson](#)(pdf download)–Level: Grades 4-6

Jack McLarty’s Portland City Hall mural reflects his definition of the river as the center of life in Portland, Oregon. Students will recognize the importance of water in the lives of people, where their drinking water comes from and how water on earth changes form in the water cycle.

Oregon Standards Connection: Physical Science, The Arts

[Weathervanes Lesson](#)(pdf download)–Level: Grades 4-6

Jack McLarty’s artwork incorporates many images of local folk art, including weathervanes. This lesson focuses on the definition of folk art, how weathervanes evolved into folk art and their use in predicting weather patterns.

Oregon Standards Connection: Earth and Space Science,, Arts (Aesthetics & Art Criticism, Historical & Cultural Perspectives, Create, Present, Perform)

Video Documentaries:

[Jack McLarty](#)

Collections:

Buckman Arts Magnet Elementary School

<http://www.buckmanelementary.org>

Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art

<http://uoma.uoregon.edu>

Hallie Ford Museum of Art

http://www.willamette.edu/museum_of_art

Laurelhurst School

<http://www.pps.k12.or.us/schools-c/pages/laurelhurst/index.htm>

Linfield College

<http://www.linfield.edu>

Portland Art Museum

<http://www.pam.org>

Portland City Hall

<http://www.portlandonline.com>

Salem Art Association

<http://www.salemart.org>