



VIRTUAL ART NEWS

FROM MS. MILLER'S ART ROOM @ GREAT OAKS

VIRTUAL ART NEWS ISSUE 7

11.13.2020

FEATURED GREAT OAKS ARTIST

MEET DEMETRUS!

Take a look at the work of our very first Featured Great Oaks Artist!

Demetrus is definitely not an imposter artist! Demetrus was inspired by the popular game "Among Us" to create some character designs of his own. You can see three of his designs here.

Demetrus did an amazing job observing the characters in the game and envisioning them in a new way! Keep up the amazing work!

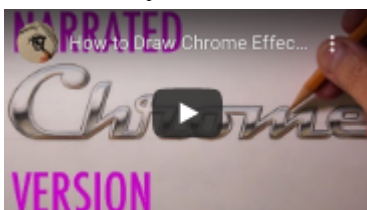


ART ROOM NEWS >

FUTURISM FANATICS

Our 6-8 scholars have been diving deeper into major art movements! This week they have been exploring the Italian Futurist movement (1909 - 1918).

Today our scholars tried their hand at drawing chrome lettering! Watch the video below to try for yourself!



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WALK LIKE AN EGYPTIAN

Our K-2 scholars traveled back in time again with a virtual field trip to the Tomb of Menna in Egypt. Here they discussed and analyzed the *visual symbols* created by ancient Egyptians to represent their language - they used pictures as words!

We also compared the images on these tomb walls with the Lascaux cave drawings. We noticed that there seemed to be many more people living together and the scribes of ancient Egypt felt it was important to give each person detail so that viewers knew who each person was.





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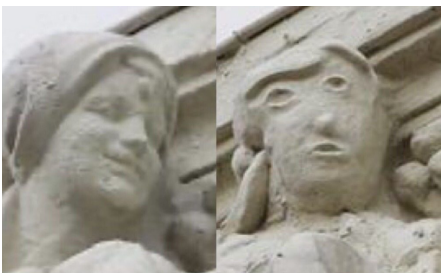
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ART NEWS AROUND THE WORLD

We've got a big oof for you this week, folks.

An article from ArtNet News, posted on November 10, 2020, claims that Spain is famous for their botched art restorations. Old works of art often need to be restored, or returned to their former condition, due to wear and tear over the years.

This restoration gone wrong is in Palencia, Spain. What was once a "handsomely carved smiling female" has been transformed into quite a different sight. See the before and after of the sculpture below.



Before restoration (left) and after being restored (right).



GOT TEA?

"THE MONA LISA IS STOLEN FROM THE LOUVRE!"

This is what covered headlines across the world on August 21, 1911. The famous masterpiece, *Mona Lisa*, was missing!

On August 29, 1911, eight days after the heist, a young man strode into the offices of the *Paris-Journal* admitting to stealing small works of art from the Louvre Museum in Paris over the last several years.

The man, referred to only as "The Thief" claims to have sold some of his stolen artworks to a "painter-friend" in Paris who loved Iberian art. That friend?

Pablo Picasso.

Continued page 3.



Pablo Picasso, "greatest artist who ever lived", or art thief?

FAMOUS ARTIST OF THE WEEK

MEET AMY SHERALD

American painter, Amy Sherald is best known for her portrait paintings. Her painting style for these portraits is distinctive - she uses grisaille (painting in grays and neutrals) to paint the main figure with vibrant clothing on a pastel background.

As a child, Sherald was discouraged from pursuing art by her parents, who wanted her career to be in medicine. Sherald has spoken about how her mother's discouragement increased her determination to become an artist.

Sherald is the first African American to paint an official First Lady portrait. Her portrait of First Lady Michelle Obama was unveiled at the National Portrait Gallery in Washington D.C. in February, 2018.

Amy Sherald is still painting in her studio in Baltimore, Maryland.





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GOT TEA? (CONTINUED)

People across the world were shook. The master artist Pablo Picasso, an art thief? How could that be?

The *Paris-Journal* refused to give up the name of their anonymous source to police to aide in their investigation. The Thief did however leave a clue to who may now have the stolen artwork, and possibly the *Mona Lisa*, in his confession published by the newspaper.

The Thief left a *nom de plume*, a pen name, of the avante-garde poet Apollinaire. Investigators rushed to Apollinaire's door to question him. French investigators didn't think Apollinaire acted alone though. Apollinaire was a devoted member of *la bande de Picasso*, an artist group of Picasso's also known as the "Wild Men of Paris". At this point, Picasso is looking pretty sus.

Unfortunately, investigators couldn't find any evidence that Apollinaire and Picasso had taken the *Mona Lisa*. However, French investigators did find the stolen statues that The Thief (now identified as Joseph Gery Pieret) sold to his "painter-friend" hidden in Picasso's cupboards.

Picasso tried to claim that the Iberian sculptures weren't the ones from the Louvre, but investigators checked the bottoms of both statues to reveal that each was stamped in bold: PROPERTY OF THE MUSEE DU LOUVRE.

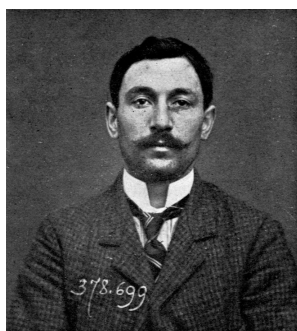
Picasso and Apollinaire first tried to through their stolen artworks into the Siene River, but instead returned the scuptures to the Louvre in person. They were tried in court by a Judge Heri Drioux, who ultimately threw out the case and sternly admonished both men for buying stolen works of art. And just like that, they were free.

But what about the stolen *Mona Lisa*? Where was she and her infamous smile? Two years later, in December 1913, she resurfaced in Florence, Italy. The thief? Vincenzo Peruggia, who stole it from France to see the *Mona Lisa* returned to it's native homeland, Italy.



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One of the sculptures found in Picasso's posession by French investigators.



Mug shot of Vincenzo Peruggia.