

Sculpting Masterclass: Exploring Form and Texture with Zara

Learning objective: To understand the core techniques and terminology of sculpture, including subtractive and additive methods, as well as the importance of texture and form in three-dimensional art.

Review these flashcards to master the vocabulary of sculpture. Use these terms to describe your own three-dimensional creations.

Sculpture

A three-dimensional work of art created by shaping or combining materials such as stone, clay, metal, or wood.

Form

The three-dimensional quality of an object, having length, width, and depth, as opposed to a flat two-dimensional shape.

Subtractive Sculpture

A method where the artist removes material from a larger block, such as carving wood or stone, to reveal the final form.

Additive Sculpture

A method where the artist builds up the form by adding material, such as modelling clay or welding metal together.

Relief Sculpture

A sculpture that projects from a flat background surface; it is meant to be viewed primarily from the front.

Armature

A rigid internal framework, often made of wire, used to support a sculpture while the outer material is being applied.

Texture

The perceived surface quality of a work of art, which can be felt physically or implied through visual patterns.

Medium

The specific material or substance used by an artist to create their work, such as marble, bronze, wire, or recycled plastic.

Scale

The size of an object in relation to its surroundings or in relation to the human body.

Composition

The arrangement and organisation of the different elements within a sculpture to create balance and visual interest.

In-the-round

A type of sculpture that is meant to be viewed from all sides, standing free from any background.

Ephemeral Sculpture

Art that is intended to last only for a short time, often made from natural materials that change or decay.