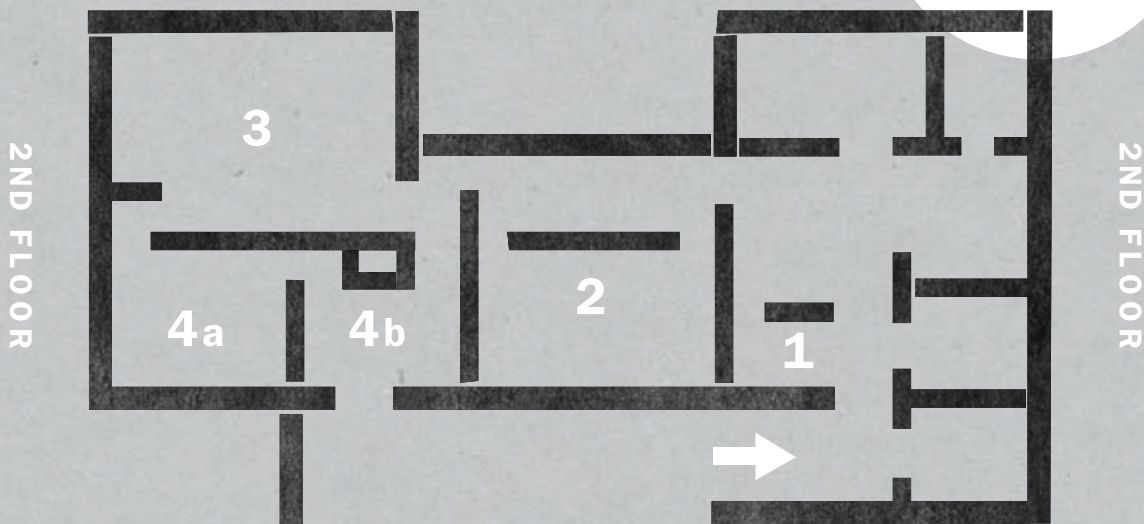


Family Activity Guide

WILLIAM KENTRIDGE

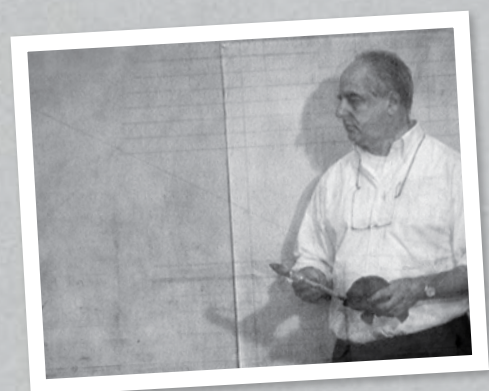
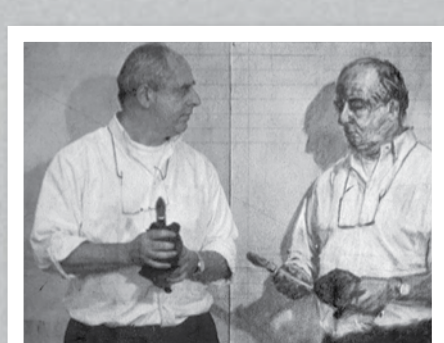
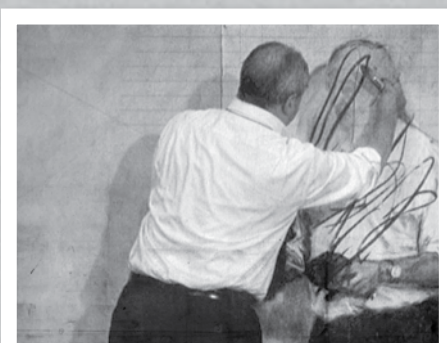
FIVE THEMES

This exhibition includes works with depictions of nudity and violence.



Use this activity guide to explore the exhibition **WILLIAM KENTRIDGE: FIVE THEMES**. The show has five sections: **UBU AND THE PROCESSION**, **SOHO AND FELIX**, **ARTIST IN THE STUDIO**, **THE MAGIC FLUTE**, and **THE NOSE**. The numbered map will help you locate each activity in the guide.

Kentridge's films are projected in darkened rooms. We suggest that you read the activity before you enter, to help you look at and think about the films.



MEET THE ARTIST

William Kentridge (South African, born 1955). Seven stills from *Invisible Mending* from *7 Fragments for Georges Méliès*. 2003. 35mm and 16mm animated film transferred to video. 1:20 min. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Kathy and Richard S. Fuld, Jr., Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro, Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis, and David Rockefeller in honor of Peter Haas. © 2010 William Kentridge. Photo: John Hodgkiss; courtesy the artist

William Kentridge is an artist who tells stories about the world around him using drawing, printmaking, collage, theater, and film. Some of Kentridge's works of art are inspired by the place where he was born and still lives today: Johannesburg, South Africa. Others are inspired by books he has read or theater productions he has seen.

Find the long, accordion-folded book titled **PORTAGE**.

Kentridge is often inspired by everyday materials and objects. He created these collages by glueing torn pieces of black paper in different combinations on pages from a book.

Kentridge's shapes were influenced by everyday objects, like a compass, scissors, and a typewriter. Find these and any others you recognize.



The title of this work, *Portage*, means to carry something over a distance.

William Kentridge (South African, born 1955). *Portage* (detail). 2000. Accordion-folded illustrated book with torn black paper on encyclopedia pages mounted on paper, unfolded: 10 13/16" x 13' 4 9/16" (27.5 x 423 cm). The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Monroe Wheeler Fund. © 2010 William Kentridge

Until 1994, people were treated unequally in South Africa based on the color of their skin. These collaged figures represent people forced to move from their homes carrying their belongings and others marching to protest this unequal treatment.

AT HOME:

Rip a piece of paper into scraps of different shapes and sizes. Combine the scraps to create an animal or person. Then rearrange the scraps to create a new figure. How many different figures can you create?

Find the gallery with the films titled **7 FRAGMENTS FOR GEORGES MÉLIÈS, JOURNEY TO THE MOON**, and **DAY FOR NIGHT**.

In these films you can see Kentridge performing different actions in his studio. To make these films he experimented with different materials, combining drawing, collage, everyday objects, and even live ants!

Can you find Kentridge performing the following actions?



RIPPING PAPER



CLIMBING A LADDER



SPILLING INK



READING A BOOK



CATCHING SHEETS OF PAPER



LOOKING THROUGH A COFFEE CUP



LIFTING A CHAIR WITH HIS FINGERS

Journey to the Moon contains nudity.



William Kentridge (South African, born 1955). Four stills from *Journey to the Moon*. 2003. 35mm and 16mm film transferred to video. 7:10 min. The Museum of Modern Art, New York. Gift of Kathy and Richard S. Fuld, Jr., Agnes Gund and Daniel Shapiro, Marie-Josée and Henry Kravis, and David Rockefeller in honor of Peter Haas. © 2010 William Kentridge

SIDE FACT

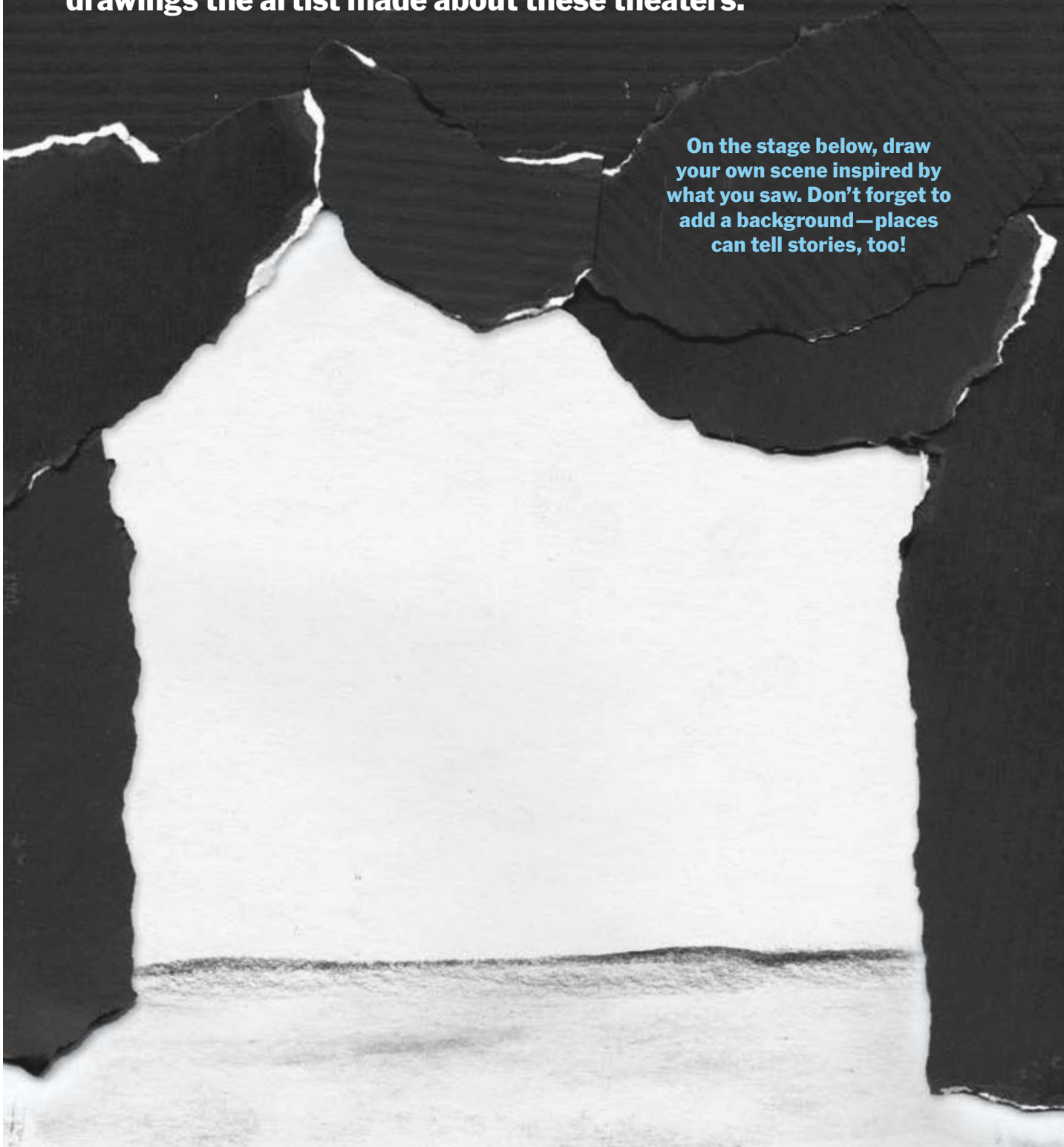
Kentridge makes stop-motion animations using drawing, collage, and film. To do this, he changes details of a scene or character bit by bit, filming each change. He combines these moments to make a film showing the story in motion.

Find the gallery titled **THE MAGIC FLUTE.**

In addition to making films, drawings, and prints, Kentridge has worked on several theater productions. Here you'll find miniature theaters and, projected on a blackboard, a film Kentridge made while working on a production of the opera *The Magic Flute*.

After each show, the gallery lights will go on. Find the drawings the artist made about these theaters.

On the stage below, draw your own scene inspired by what you saw. Don't forget to add a background—places can tell stories, too!



a) Find the gallery with the films titled I AM NOT ME, THE HORSE IS NOT MINE.



Kentridge has created works of art inspired by the story "The Nose" (1836), written by Nikolai Gogol, about a Russian man who wakes up to find that his nose has disappeared from his face and is living a life of its own.

b) Find the gallery with the prints featuring the nose character performing different actions.

**Draw your own picture of a nose character in action.
Explain to your friend or family member what the nose
is doing in your drawing.**

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