

HELLO MOM & POP ONLY STAYED AT THE CHELSEY ONE DAY
JUST WANDERING AROUND IT WAS TOO ARTSY AND TOO EXPENSIVE.
INTO A NEIGHBORHOOD ON MY OWN THE FIRST DAY HAPPENED
EUREKA IT ALREADY FELT LIKE HOME SO I DECIDED TO CHECK IN
AND STAY A WHILE SO RIGHT NOW WHAT I GOT IS A \$17 A WEEK
ROOM ON THE WATERFRONT AND A VIEW OF THE BROOKLINE
BRIDGE IN A LITTLE WHILE I'LL HAVE TWO ROOMS: ONE FOR
SLEEPING THE OTHER FOR PAINTING. FOOD HERE'S
GREAT AND NOT THAT MUCH MORE EXPENSIVE THAN
CALIFORNIA SO ACTUALLY MY FINANCIAL SITUATION WON'T
BE THAT MUCH DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I SHOULD
JUST BE INTERESTED

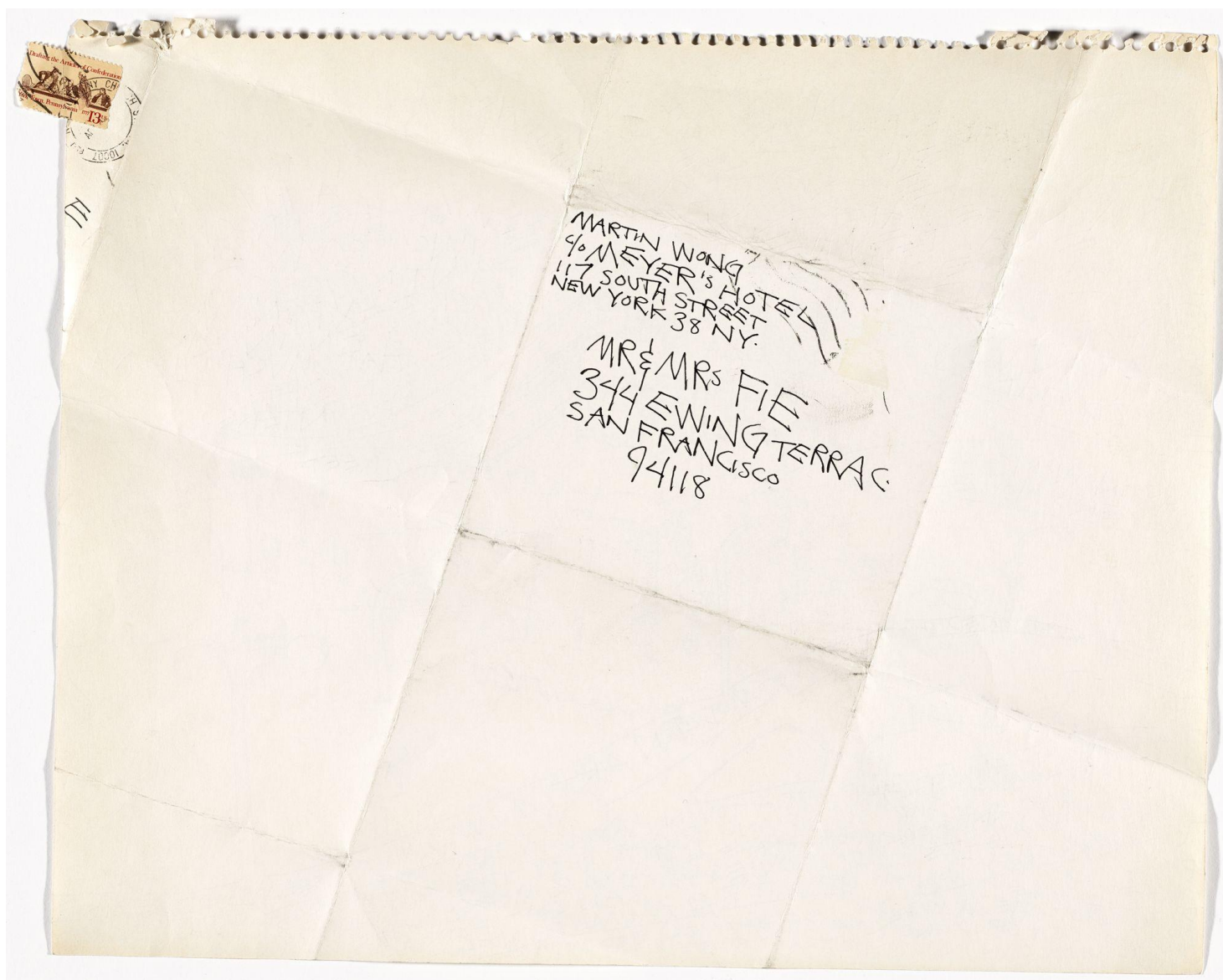
MARTIN WONG 40
MEYER'S HOTEL

117 SOUTH STREET NEW YORK 38 NY

ALSO I JOINED THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART (MOMA) WHICH SEEMS
TO BE LIKE
YOU CAN GET
ME

A DROP IN FOR THIS ALSO I GUES
PIN CENTER FOR OUT OF TOWN ARTISTS. THEY SAY FOR \$25
FREE SO I SIGN UP AND RIGHT OFF THE GUY FOR \$25
\$40 ART BOOK FOR FREE AND SAYS 2 MORE
IT'S ALL THE OLD MOVIES YOU CAN EAT FOR
THEY DON'T CALL IT "BIG MOMA" FOR NOTHING
P.S. THERE IS SOME DOUBT ABOUT THE MIMBRES
BOWLS SO JUST SEND ONE (THE GRASSHOPPER)
TO THE AMERICAN INDIAN DEPT AT SOOTHEY'S 980 MADISON
AVENUE N.Y.

MoMA



Reverse of *First Letter Home from New York*

Step 1 Look closely

Questions:

1. What are the different kinds of lines you see?
2. What do you notice about the setting? Where do you think this might be?
3. What do you notice about the way that Wong is adding words?
4. Read the text. What new information did you learn?

Step 2 Learn more

Martin Wong created this drawing in 1978 right after he moved to New York City. In it, he writes about walking through the city and moving into a room with a view of the Brooklyn Bridge. He even talks about visiting MoMA! If you look closely at the back of the drawing, you can see that it had been folded into a letter and addressed to his parents, "Mr. & Mrs. Fie."

Step 3 Activity: Drawing with Words

Watch this video to see a MoMA educator explain the activity: <https://bit.ly/3av3hzO>

Materials: Paper, pencil or pen

1. Choose what you would like to draw. It could be a space around you or a view out your window or door.
2. Begin drawing what you see. You do not have to draw everything - choose the details that jump out the most.
3. Add a story into your drawing, writing about the scene that you are sketching.

Play around with the **size** of words, different *fonts*, and s p a c i n g.

4. After you write your story, you can go back and add more details to your drawing.

Step 4 Share!

Mail your drawing to someone you haven't seen in a while to let them know what you're seeing and doing. Or, you can email it to us at MoMA:

schoolprograms@moma.org



Volkswagen of America is proud to be MoMA's lead partner of education.

Generous support for School and Teacher Programs is provided by the Carroll and Milton Petrie Education Program Endowment, the William Randolph Hearst Endowment Fund, and the Mimi and Peter Haas Endowment Fund for Elementary School Programs.

Additional funding is provided by the Ducommun and Gross Family Foundation and by the Annual Education Fund.

Images: Martin Wong. *First letter home from New York (also I joined The Museum of Modern Art)*. 1978. Felt-tip pen on paper. Gift of the artist's estate. Courtesy of the Estate of Martin Wong and P.P.O.W Gallery, New York, NY