



Charcoal and Graphite: Artists

Jocelyn Rojas



William Kentridge

- Best known for animated charcoal drawings
- Works in: sculpture, printmaking, tapestry, stage design, collage.
- Directs operas and creates multiscreen video installations that tour the globe.



- Born in 1955 in Johannesburg, South Africa
- He grew up during the apartheid (non-whites were segregated and repressed), his parents were prominent lawyers
- His work is inspired by what he has seen and experienced in South Africa
- Themes found in his work: of memory, time, history, identity. And Political and social justice





Material, Process, and Transformation

Charcoal

- Expressive marks
- Wide tonal range

Erase

- Transformability (speed)
- Illusion of movement
- Traces of process remain

Motion

- Storytelling
- Memory
- Photography
- Animation



The Nature of Charcoal According to Kentridge



“The point about charcoal is its flexibility, which allows you to change an image as quickly as you can think.”

“When you are working with charcoal you can edit with an eraser... What that does is say that the image is provisional and unstable.”

Erasure method

“There are sometimes many hundreds of alterations on one sheet of paper and the sheet of paper that is left is the last frame, not of the film, but of that sequence in the film, of that shot.”



Lesson Plan incorporation

- Explore charcoal through mark making and erasure on different textures of paper
 - Create a stop motion to show movement and tonal values of forms
 - Create a stop motion inspired by Kentridge to tell a story.
 - only one or two drawings, which students continually photograph as they add or erase elements.



Differentiation

- Wearing PPE such as gloves and/or a dust mask
- Using handle sticks to better grip and indirectly hold the medium.
- Using smudging tools for application and blending rather than using the medium alone, pre-dirtied smudge tools handed to student.
- Using other mediums that can still help to reach the same exploration or art making goal : Conte (less dusty and harder), graphite in place of charcoal for more control and less dust.