

Art
Gallery
NSW

LOUISE
BOURGEOIS

HAS
THE
DAY
INVADED
THE
NIGHT
OR
HAS
THE
NIGHT
INVADED
THE
DAY
?



CHILDREN'S
TRAIL

MADE WITH LOVE

In the 1940s in New York, Louise Bourgeois made a series of works called the Personages.

She carved different shapes from wood and placed them together to suggest the presence of people she loved and missed from her home in France.



Woman with Packages 1949,
Collection The Easton Foundation,
New York © The Easton Foundation
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2023, photo: Christopher Burke

Draw your loved ones as
a series of shapes.

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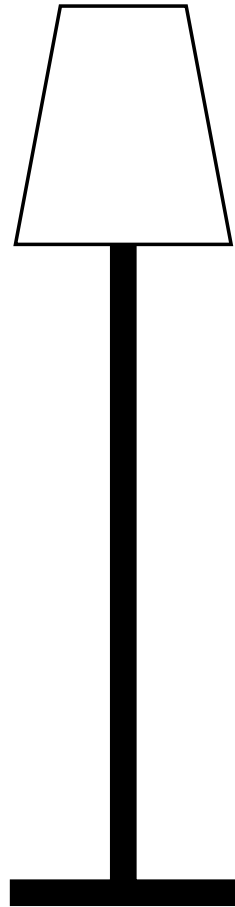
In this sculpture, Bourgeois combined an everyday household broom with a piece of clothing to suggest the shape and character of a woman.

If you pictured yourself as an object, what would it be?

OBJECTS ALIVE



Design an outfit to bring this floor lamp to life.



At home, dress up some household items in your clothes. Take photos of them to invent an imagined group of figures.

This metal and wood sculpture combines Bourgeois's love for both geometry and colour.

The blue landscape of semicircles suggests a calm refuge.

Imagine you could shrink and enter this landscape. Where would you shelter? What creatures might live here?



Draw your ideas here.

COLOUR GEOMETRY

At home, cut geometric shapes out of coloured paper to make a landscape.



Design a page about a place you love.

Bourgeois made many books, often recycling her old clothes to make collages for the pages.

These pages are inspired by the Bièvre, the river that ran through the grounds of her childhood home near Paris.

RIVER MEMORIES

At home, stitch recycled fabric and paper together to make a collaged book about a special place.



Draw a picture of an animal you admire here.

Some people fear spiders but Bourgeois celebrated them. She associated spiders and their skilful weaving techniques and protective strength with her beloved mother.

Compare someone you love with an animal. What special skills and qualities would they share?

SPINDLY SPIDER

At home, use wire or chenille stems to make a series of spindly spiders.

EXPRESSIVE FORMS

Bourgeois created this hanging arched figure to express the way our bodies can move and contort in response to different emotions.

Notice how this figure hangs and can turn. When you look at this pose, what emotions do you think of?

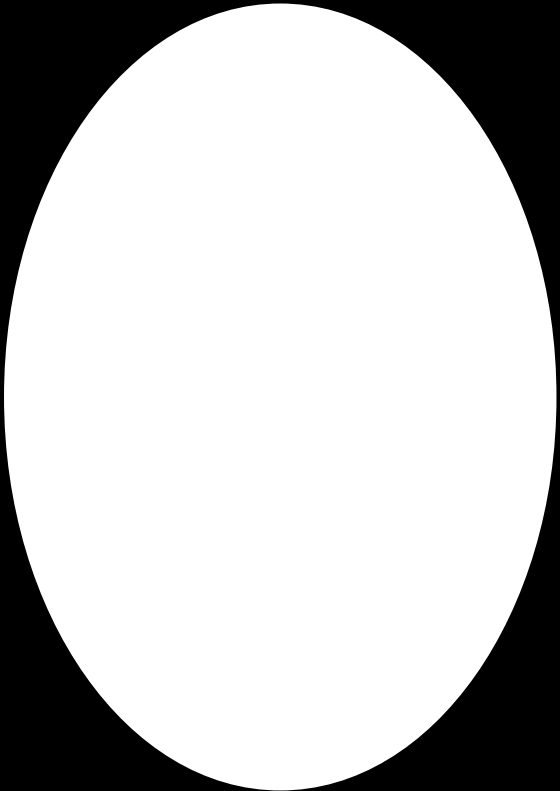
At home, ask someone to pose for you in different positions and draw them.



Develop a series of figure drawings that express different emotions.

Bourgeois often found it hard to sleep, a condition known as insomnia. This large mirror is about the slippage of time between night and day, when the hours blend into each other.

Study your reflection in this giant mirror and draw what you see.



**MIRROR,
MIRROR**

We acknowledge the Gadigal of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of the Country on which the Art Gallery of New South Wales stands.

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