

# PLUGGED IN

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A COOPERATIVE PROJECT OF THE SANTA BARBARA NEWS-PRESS AND THE EDUCATORS' ROUNDTABLE, PUBLISHED MONTHLY TO PROMOTE LEARNING AMONG YOUNG READERS IN NATURAL SCIENCE, HISTORY, TECHNOLOGY AND ART

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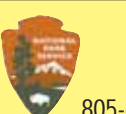
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## This Month's Theme: Geometric Art

Points, lines, angles, and surfaces — that's what geometry is. Or, to put it more simply: shapes. Basic shapes — circles, triangles, rectangles, and squares — can be found in everything you see. Many artists use shapes and surfaces in their art.

## Geometric Art is Everywhere

This summer, the University Art Museum at UCSB invites you to look at bright, bold geometry in art and sculpture. Notice the different colors and shapes that are used in these artworks to inspire your own geometric creations.

The University Art Museum at UCSB invites you to visit two special geometric exhibitions: *BETTY GOLD: Holistic Abstractions*, and *ANNA VON MERTENS: MATRIX 207/Suggested North Points*. These exhibitions will be on view through August 28, 2005.

## BETTY GOLD: Holistic Abstractions



Betty Gold is an artist who works with geometric shapes to create images and sculptures. On the walls of the exhibition are graphic prints that are made up of triangles, rectangles, circles, and arrows. There are also abstract sculptures made of welded steel. Each of these sculptures starts with a single rectangle, which Betty cuts and welds into different shapes.



**BRIGHT IDEA** Make your own geometric sculpture by taking a piece of cardboard and cutting shapes out of it. Tape the pieces together and see if you can make your sculpture stand up.

Betty Gold, *Arrow Suite; Communication*, 1972-1974, serigraph, University Art Museum, gift of Dr. Richard Klee. Photo by Tony Masters.

*BETTY GOLD: Holistic Abstractions*, exhibition at University Art Museum from July 6-August 28, 2005. Curated by Natalie Sanderson. Photo by Tony Masters.



## ANNA VON MERTENS: MATRIX 207: Suggested North Points, and Black, White and Shades of Gray



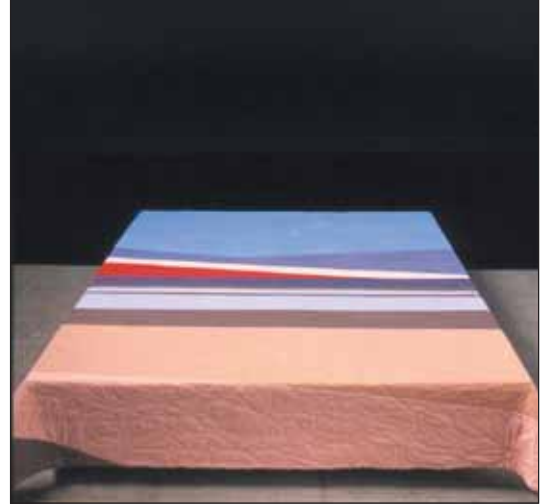
Anna Von Mertens creates landscape sculptures by stitching scientific images onto quilts. Each of the *North Points* sculptures is about a certain place, such as west, east, north, and south. Anna also stitches on images from science and biology. The series *Black, White and Shades of Gray* includes scientific data and information about certain places to show ideas about the world.



**BRIGHT IDEA** Make an image of a place that means something interesting to you. Think of different things and colors to draw or attach to your artwork that remind you of this place.

Anna Von Mertens, *West*, 2003, and *East*, 2003. Photo courtesy of Jean-Michelle Addor.

Anna Von Mertens, *South*, 2003. Photo courtesy of Don Tuttle Photography.



## Sculpture Tour

Find the "Sculpture and Visual Arts Guidebook" inside the museum to take a sculpture tour. George Rickey's *Annular Eclipse VI* is the first sculpture on the self-guided tour. This stainless steel sculpture rotates in space using the power of wind. It acts as a sundial throughout the day as it casts shadows in the museum plaza. Use the map in the guidebook to find the next sculpture and enjoy your journey.

George Rickey, *Annular Eclipse VI*, 1998-2000, University Art Museum, George Rickey Bequest. Photo by Tony Masters © The Estate of George Rickey.



**BRIGHT IDEA** What can you make that will move by wind or water power? Start by writing down your ideas and making sketches of your designs. Next, make a model of your creation and test it outside. Be adventurous! You might have to try many times before you are able to create your vision.

Come visit the University Art Museum to look at the exhibitions, get inspiration for your own creative projects, and share your ideas with us. We look forward to seeing you soon and wish you good luck with your geometric adventures!

Page prepared by Natalie Sanderson, Curator of Education, University Art Museum, UCSB.

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