

Outdoor Art





This outdoor sculpture is made from huge steel tubes.

What is Outdoor Art?

Outdoor art is art that is placed outside rather than inside a building. It may be art painted on the outside walls of a building. These paintings are often used to make large blank walls look nice.

Other kinds of outdoor art can be found in the sculpture gardens of some museums. When sculptures are placed outdoors, people can walk around them and look at them in different ways. Outdoor sculptures can be enjoyed by everyone.

Key Notes:

Why might someone make art to be placed outdoors?



These painted cows were part of an outdoor art show in Chicago, Illinois

City Sculptures

Some outdoor sculptures are shaped like animals. In fact, many cities have had public shows of animal sculptures. In these shows, artists have painted sculptures of cows, pigs, horses, and other animals in hundreds of different ways.

People enjoy these sculptures because they show how different artists put their ideas to work. To add to the fun, the sculptures are put in many public places so people can be surprised as they walk through a city. Around the next corner, there could be a cow painted to look like a movie star.

Key Notes:

What kinds of animal sculptures have been shown in cities?



Richard Hunt's *We Will* sculpture can be found in Chicago.

Richard Hunt

Richard Hunt is an artist who makes sculptures. He has made more than 100 outdoor sculptures. Most were made from metal. The top of one of Richard Hunt's sculptures is twisted into wings. Another sculpture looks like a person changing into a bug. The bug's eyes are made from a car's lights.

Hunt builds many of his sculptures from trash. He cuts and shapes metal things that people have thrown out, such as shopping carts and parts from trucks. Richard Hunt is an artist who turns metal trash into art.

Key Notes:

What are some things used in Richard Hunt's art?



In 2005, the artist Christo set up an outdoor sculpture in New York City's Central Park.

Temporary Outdoor Art

Most outdoor art is made to last a long time. However, an artist named Christo makes outdoor art that is temporary. What Christo wants to do with his art is to change a setting, but only for a short time.

In 2005, Christo hung pieces of cloth that he called *The Gates*, in a New York City park. From far away, the cloth looked like a golden river.

After two weeks, Christo takes down his art because he thinks that temporary art makes people see a setting in a new way.

Key Notes:

Why do you think most outdoor art is made to last a long time?

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