

Fifth Grade

Title: "Brooklyn Bridge" (1939)

Artist: Joseph Stella (1877-1946) Born: Italy Painted: USA

EALR'S: Arts

- 1.1.1- Understands art concepts and vocabulary, line, texture, color, value, shapes- geometric shapes (triangle, diamond, square....) and organic shapes, (curvy, natural look, flowing).
- 1.2- Understands art concepts and vocabulary, principals of organization. (Balance, proportion, movement.....).
- 1.3- Understands and applies art styles from various artists' cultures and times.
- 1.4- Applies audience skills in a variety of art settings and performances.
- 2.1- Applies a creative process in the arts.
- 2.3- Applies a responding process to an arts presentation.
- 3.1- Uses the arts to express and present ideas and feeling.
- 3.2- Uses the arts to communicate for a specific purpose.
- 3.3- Develops personal aesthetic criteria to communicate artistic choices.
- 4.2- Demonstrates and analyzes the connections between the arts and other content areas.
- 4.3- Understands how the arts impact lifelong choices.
- 4.4- Understand that the arts shape and reflect culture and history.

Text:

The repetitions of strong vertical and diagonal lines are used here to create depth in this composition. This is an unusual perspective of a bridge. At the bottom of this composition the artist has included a more traditional perspective of the bridge. The intensity of the colors Stella uses are bright and are accented by heavy black lines of the bridge. This gives the composition an overall feeling similar to a stained-glass window. As a "Futurist" Stella was interested in the wonders and power of man-made objects.

Questions:

1. How is this artist looking at the bridge?
2. How is this similar to a stained glass window?
3. How has the artist created the feeling of depth?
4. How does Stella balance this composition/ (Types and placement of lines exactly the same on each side of the center vertical line).
5. Why did he paint this picture? How did he feel about it? (The excitement created by the many diagonal lines, and the vibrant choice of colors shows us his enthusiasm for what man was able to create in his environment).