

LOBI LOBI LOBI LOBI

باسكال مارتين تايو
Pascale Marthine Tayou

Educator Resource

Pascale Marthine Tayou is a globally renowned contemporary artist known for his multidisciplinary approach encompassing media, installation, sculpture, photography, and performance. Born in Cameroon in 1966 and currently based in Ghent, Belgium, Pascale has captivated audiences with his thought-provoking artworks that delve into a variety of themes, such as identity, migration, ecology, consumerism, and globalisation.

Pascale's artistic process involves skillfully arranging found objects and materials in a concise and poetic manner to convey new meanings, deeply influenced by his surroundings. Through his innovative use of unconventional materials and his reinvention of traditional objects, Pascale aims to blur the boundaries between art and everyday life.

The exhibition, named *LOBI LOBI*, takes its title from Pascale's poem of the same name. In Lingala, an indigenous language of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the term "LOBI LOBI" means "the day before yesterday, the day after tomorrow, and soon."

OBSERVE & DISCUSS

Use the following observational and discussion questions to engage students in critical thinking and the interpretation of Pascale Marthine Tayou's artworks. Consider adapting the questions based on the students' cycle and grade level. Encourage them to closely observe the materials, colours, forms, cultural references, and conceptual elements in Pascale's vibrant works.

- What materials and objects does Pascale incorporate in his artworks, and how do they contribute to the overall aesthetic and meaning of his works?
- Do you notice any elements in his work (for example, colours or objects) that remind you of something from your own life?
- How does Pascale arrange objects or materials in his artworks? Are there any specific techniques or methods he uses to create compositions?
- How do the different media used in his work interact with each other?
- What do you think the artist was trying to convey through this mix of media?
- What themes or issues do Pascale's artwork address, and how do his works prompt viewers to reflect on these themes?
- How does Pascale's work make you feel about the world around you?
- How does this work relate to the artist's personal or cultural background?
- What is the title of the artwork, and how does the work relate to the title? If you could rename the artwork, what would your preferred title be and why?
- Envision yourself stepping into one of Pascale's artworks. What would you see, hear, feel, smell, and taste?

CREATE

Eco Reflections

Pascale's art sometimes underscores the harmful impact of human activity on nature, utilising materials like plastic bags, used packaging, disposable items and found objects to create thought-provoking works. Despite their lively form, his artworks convey an urgent message about our consumer-driven society and our throwaway culture, urging us to reflect on our relationship with the environment.

Ask students to keep a journal for a week, noting the products they use and discard on a daily basis. Encourage them to reflect on their findings and discuss ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle consumed goods. Then, instruct students to share their thoughts with their classmates on the impact of consumerism on the environment.

Sculpture with Found Objects

Pascale's art showcases a unique blend of unconventional materials in a poetic manner. He skillfully combines contrasting textures, such as hard and soft, and plays with bright and dark colours, resulting in visually captivating expressions of contrasting elements and subject matter.

Ask students to create a sculpture using found and recycled objects from home. Start with a sketching exercise and guide them in transforming their drawing into a 3D sculpture. Students can attach the various items together using materials such as glue, wire, and sticky tape, to create their final sculptural compositions. After completing their sculptures, invite students to reflect on their creative process with their classmates.

VISITING THE EXHIBITION

The exhibition *LOBI LOBI* and *BOBO LAND: Pascale Marthine Tayou* is open to school groups free of charge. All school groups must pre-book their visit. To learn more about the exhibition and schedule a guided or self-guided visit, please email info@culturalfoundation.ae or call +971 2 657 6348.

Gallery Etiquette

To prepare for your visit, please take note of the following guidelines and discuss them with your students before visiting:

- For your safety and the safety of the artworks, please do not touch the works in the exhibition.
- Please note that food, drinks, and chewing gum are not allowed in the exhibition.
- Use pencil for writing or sketching.
- Do not lean on walls, cases, or artworks, and do not use them as writing surfaces.
- Use a soft voice to avoid distracting other groups in the galleries.
- Running is not permitted within the exhibition to avoid harming yourself or damaging the artworks.

We look forward to welcoming you and your students to the Cultural Foundation for the *LOBI LOBI* and *BOBO LAND: Pascale Marthine Tayou* exhibition.