



Student Activity Sheet
Seth Chwast-Icons of Cayman 2008

Welcome to Icons of Cayman! This is an exhibit of new works by artist Seth Chwast who was inspired by a visit to Grand Cayman and the Sister Islands in 2008.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Did you know that Seth Chwast was diagnosed with autism as a very young child?

What is Autism?

Autism is a complex developmental disability that affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Both children and adults with autism typically show difficulties in verbal and non verbal communication, social interaction and leisure or play activities.

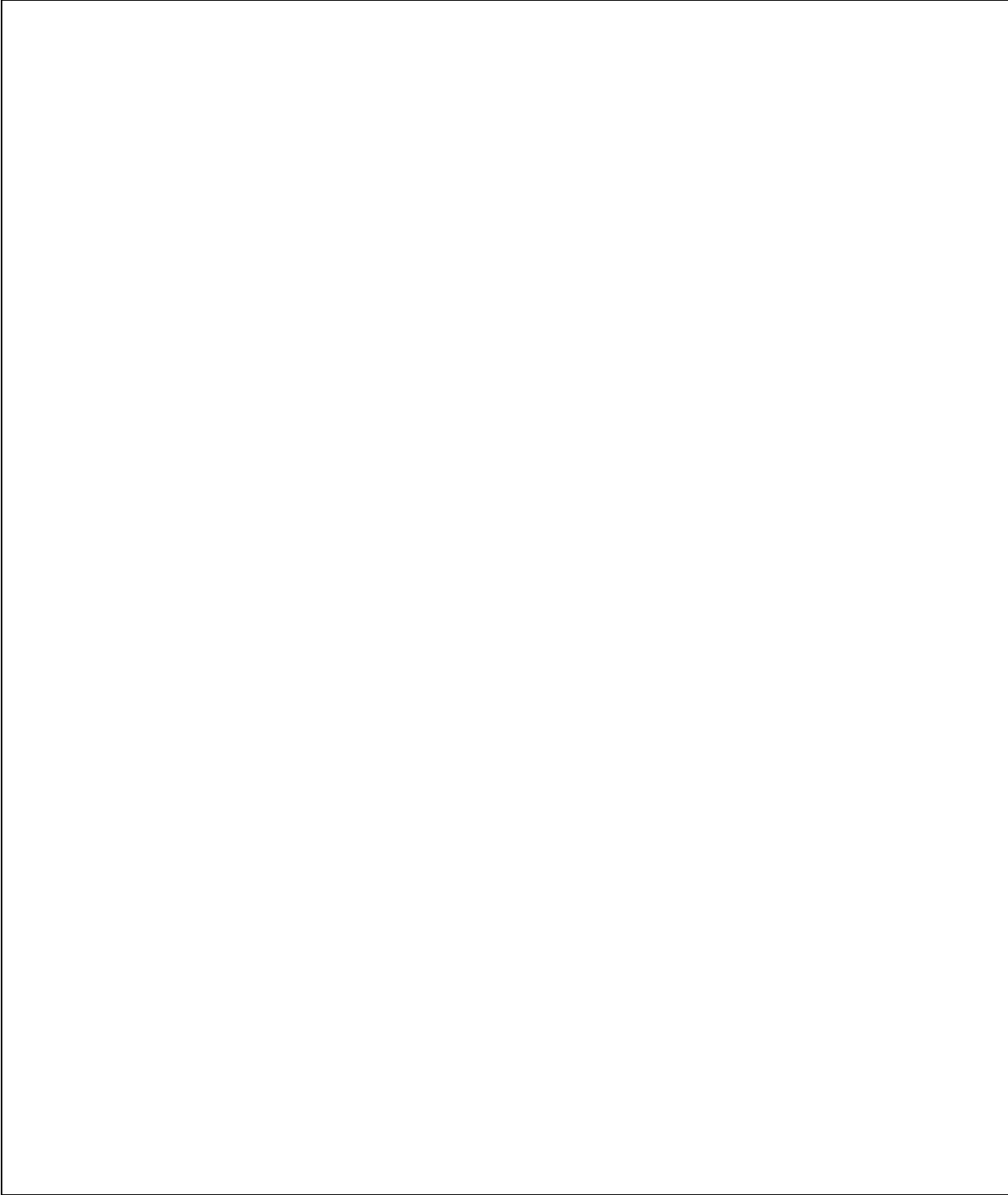
Communication

Seth Chwast does not speak very often. He communicates through his artwork.

What do you think Seth is trying to communicate in the picture below?



Try to communicate something about yourself in the box below. Either draw a portrait or draw symbols or objects which tells us something about you:



Seth uses many different colours in his paintings including primary and secondary colours.

Can you name a few?

Shapes!

Shapes come in either organic forms or geometric forms. Organic forms are free formed and curvy (like a heart or a leaf) and geometric shapes are precise and linear (like a square or triangle).

a) Walk around and look for examples of organic shapes. Draw different organic shapes you see in the box below.

What types of shapes do you see in this picture? (Geometric or Organic)



c) Try to re draw the above picture in the box below using only geometric shapes.

Repetition

Seth likes to repeat colours, shapes and lines to create patterns.

a) Why do you think Seth likes to use repetition in his paintings?



b) What do you first notice when you look at the above painting?

d) Try to create some of your own patterns by repeating shapes and lines in the boxes below:

21 Questions!

In Class Extended Assignment

- A) Look at this painting from the Seth Chwast- Icons of Cayman Art Exhibit and study it carefully.
- B) Answer the following questions below in your notebooks. Be prepared to share your answers with your class.



- 1) What is the Title of the Artwork?
- 2) What would you have called this painting if you had done it?
- 3) Describe the objects or people that you see in the artwork?
- 4) Do objects or people fill up the space?
- 5) Is there a lot of space in between or around?
- 6) What type of shapes do you see? (Are they circles, oval, squares, rectangles or triangles?)
- 7) What type of lines do you see? (Are they wavy, straight, thin, thick, broken, jagged, vertical or horizontal lines?)
- 8) Name the colours that you see?
- 9) Describe the colours? (Are they cool or warm, bright, soft, dark or strong?)
- 10) What feelings or emotions do you think the artist's was trying to get across?
- 11) What kind of feelings do you feel when you look at this artwork?
- 12) What is the focal point? (The area of the painting that stands out.)
- 13) Why does it stand out? (Is it bigger, brighter or more colourful?)
- 14) What is happening in the artwork?
- 15) Does it remind you of other things?
- 16) Does anything repeat itself?
- 17) What words would you use to describe this artwork?
- 18) Did you learn anything from this artwork?
- 19) Explain why you like or dislike this work of art?
- 20) Do you feel you understand this artwork better now that you have answered these questions? Why?