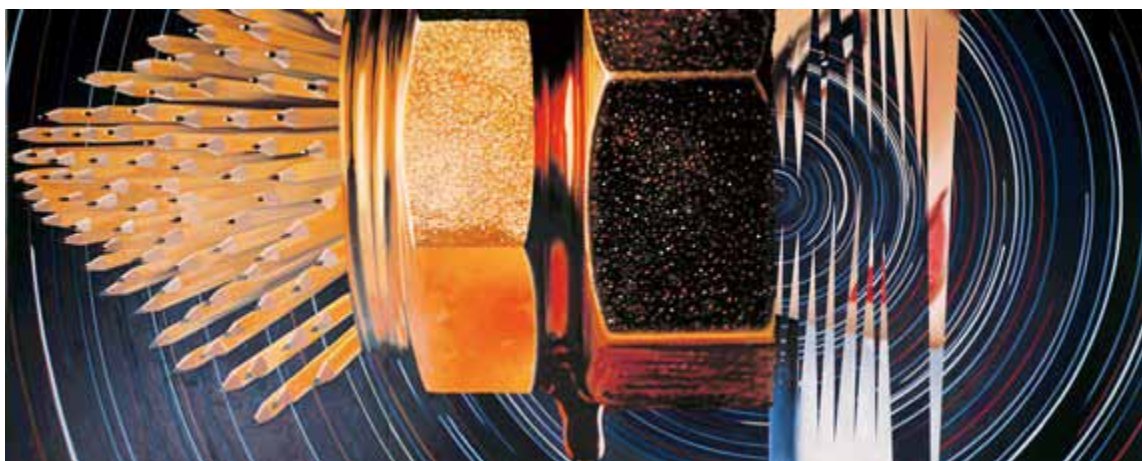


Family Guide

# JAMES ROSENQUIST

(American, born 1933)



**SFMOMA**

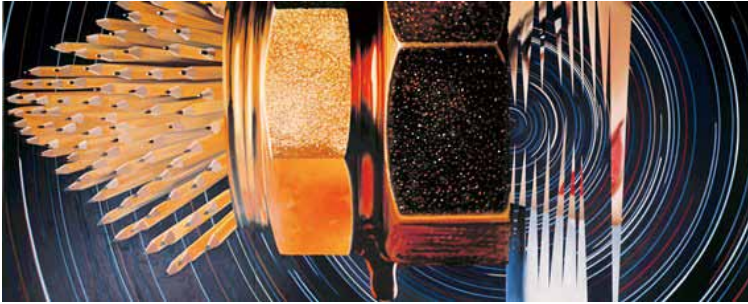
*Leaky Ride for Dr. Leakey, 1983*

Oil on canvas

Collection SFMOMA, gift of Harry W.  
and Mary Margaret Anderson

# Look

Look carefully at this painting for a moment.



James Rosenquist, *Leaky Ride for Dr. Leakey*, 1983

Rosenquist's large canvases combine partial views and fragments of objects and images. The artist thinks this is like the way we see things in life: "Take a walk through midtown Manhattan and you will see the back of a girl's legs and then you see out of the corner of your eye a taxi. . . . So—the legs, the car—you see parts of things."

## Fun Fact!

When Rosenquist was a young artist in New York, he worked as a billboard painter in Times Square. His paintings often begin as small collages that he transforms by "scaling up" (a commercial art technique in which a grid is used to proportionally enlarge images).

What objects do you see in this painting?

Do these objects have anything in common?

Are they the same size they would be in real life?

Does this painting remind you of a billboard?

If so, how?



# Explore

Rosenquist wants his paintings to suggest multiple meanings. Look at the painting and make up your own story about it by filling in the blanks below.

When we jumped into the \_\_\_\_\_,  
the first thing we saw was \_\_\_\_\_.

The \_\_\_\_\_ began to \_\_\_\_\_,  
and we \_\_\_\_\_. We watched  
in amazement as \_\_\_\_\_ appeared.

Then the pencils \_\_\_\_\_,  
and we knew we were not in \_\_\_\_\_.

We quickly turned toward \_\_\_\_\_ as the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ came into view. We were \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_!



# Create

Gather images from magazines or newspapers and create a collage that is similar in structure to *Leaky Ride for Dr. Leakey*. Experiment with layering parts of three or four different images on a horizontal background. Leave some mystery in your choices. When you're pleased with your design, glue it down and decide on a title for your work.

