

# ALEXANDER LIBERMAN



## THE TEACHER RESOURCE PACKET

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# RESOURCE PACKET

ARTEACHES

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GLOBAL  
UNDERSTANDING

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STARTS HERE

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This packet has been designed for elementary school students and welcomes educators to adapt to their needs.

- About the Artist
- Close-Looking Activities
- Hands-On Activities
- Online Resources

**CONTACT US:**

**305-348-2890**  
**[frostedu@fiu.edu](mailto:frostedu@fiu.edu)**

*To learn more, visit us  
at [frost.fiu.edu](http://frost.fiu.edu)*



# STEAMworks



Argosy, 1980 Alexander Lieberman

Creating transformative art experiences is part of our mission. As a university museum, promoting higher education to those who may become first-generation graduates is vital. Equally important is lessening educational inequalities within our neighboring schools and community.

The STEAMworks program initiative began in 2015 with Sweetwater Elementary School. This school-wide arts integration model changed the foundation of the school's teaching, creating a multiple museum visit program for each grade level. Funding for transportation and professional development was necessary, as well as in-school visits with museum educators during the year.

## **Close-Looking Worksheet**

**Pick an artwork. What can we know by looking?**

**1. Describe what you see. Think about line, color, texture, pattern, and shape. Can you figure out what it is made of, or how it was made?**

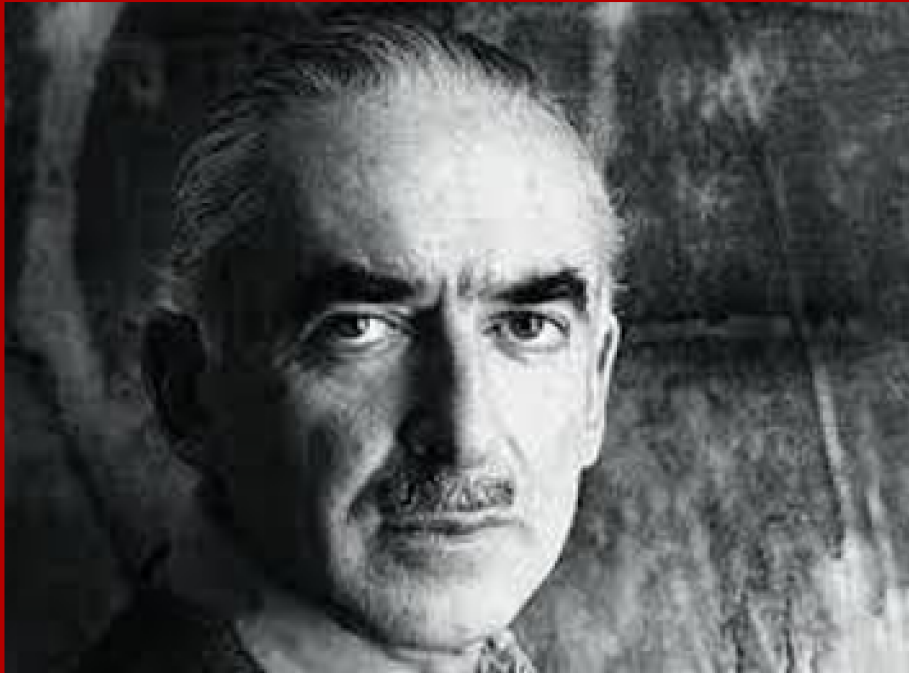
**2. What do you know about this object? Is it familiar? What is not familiar?**

**3. List words or ideas that come to mind when you look at this object. Why does this object make you think about those words?**

**4. What questions would you like to ask about this object? Can you guess the answers to any of them?**

**5. Does the object connect to a story or memory that has meaning to you?**

# THE ARTIST



Alexander Liberman was born in Kiev, Russia, and grew up in Paris. His mother wanted him to be an artist, but he studied philosophy, mathematics, and architecture before turning to painting. Liberman was the managing editor of the French magazine VU, and also worked part-time in an architect's office making illustrations of gardens. With the outbreak of World War II, he fled to the United States, where he got a job working for Vogue. By 1962, Liberman was the editorial director for all Condé Nast publications in the United States and Europe, and he and his wife, Tatiana, were style setters in fashionable Manhattan society. He divided his time between the office and the studio, explaining that he thought of art as a dangerous full-time profession because it would be very easy to become "trapped" into doing the same type of work all of the time.



*Argosy*, 1980, Alexander Liberman

### **Essential Questions:**

What are some of the challenges artists have to overcome when creating a three-dimensional work of art compared to a two-dimensional work of art?

How have sculptures created an impact on 20th-century art?

The word Argosy means large ship. Why do you think he chose that name?

Why is it important to recycle, repurpose and reuse materials?

How can artists repurpose materials to create art?



**Discuss:** Sculptures by Alexander Liberman and view other sculptures at the FIU Sculpture park. Discuss engineering and casting processes.

**Connect:** View the sculptures in the FIU Sculpture park. Compare and contrast a few of the sculptures.

**Studio Experience:** Follow the engineering process to create a free-standing sculpture using paper rolls. The structure should be at least twelve inches tall

**Assess/Connect:** Portfolio Review, sketches of sculptures

**Steam Connections/ Standards:**

**Science:** Life Science-Environmental issues, recycle, repurpose, reuse

**Technology:** Videos, presentations, sharing

**Engineering:** Problem-solving, engineering process - Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool.

**Art:** Skills, Techniques and Processes, Organizational Structure

**Math:** Operations and Algebraic Thinking, Numbers and Operations, Measurements and Data, Geometry. Small scale to large scale.

## **Resources:**

[Alexander Liberman](#)

[Alexander Liberman on ArtNet](#)

[A Definitively Modern Man, Alexander Liberman](#)

This is a teacher resource packet intended for elementary school students.

For more educational resources,  
please visit: <https://frost.fiu.edu/learn/schools-teachers/index.html>