# ART at HOME

#ArtacasaSuñolSoler

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LOOK, THINK, FEEL, EXPERIMENT, LEARN, ENJOY

the art of the Josep Suñol Collection from home and with your family

GO AHEAD!



## THE SHAPE OF MOVEMENTS

Movement was one of the favorite topics of futurist artists, who tried to capture it without photo or video cameras, only with the means of painting or sculpture. But if painting creates still images and sculpture produces motionless objects... How can actions be represented?



GIACOMO BALLA | *Linee-Forza del pugno di Boccioni II* | 1968 (made from the original 1915 prototype)

#### LOOK AND DISCUSS

Try to describe this sculpture by looking at the color, the lines, the shapes... what do they look like and what do they suggest?

The work is by Giacomo Balla, an artist from the futurist movement: what does the word "Futurism" make you think about?

The piece is called *Lines of Force from the Punch of Boccioni II* (another futurist artist friend of Balla): Which action or movement do you think it represents?

A punch leaves no trace in the air... but if it did, what lines would it draw? What would its imaginary trajectory be like?

### THE FUTURIST ARTISTS SAY

We declare that the splendor of the world has been enriched by a new beauty: the beauty of speed. [...] Everything moves, everything runs, everything goes fast... so a racehorse doesn't have four legs: it has twenty and its movements are triangular"

Fragment from the Manifesto of Futurism, Filippo Tommaso Marinetti, Le Figaro, 1909



How do you interpret this statement? Twenty legs and movements in a triangular shape... Do you dare to draw it?



Search on the Internet the 1913 work *Il cavaliere rosso* (The Red Knight) by the futurist artist Carlo Carrà for inspiration.

#### **EXPERIMENT**



Think of an action or a movement and ask someone else to do it (kicking, throwing, spinning, bending... there are many possibilities!)





Record the person making the gestures and watch the video repeatedly to study them. What are the movements like: fast or slow? Smooth or energetic? Long or short? Where do they go? Which imaginary lines do they leave in the air? Which shape do they have?... We advise you to observe them frame by frame to analyze the succession and trajectory. You can also take photographs.



Translate these movements into a plastic composition (a drawing, painting or sculpture) taking into account the lines, shapes, colours and volumes that you are going to use to depict or materialise them. Also think if you want to represent the movements in a succession- one after another- or if you prefer to show them simultaneously (all together at once, like in Balla's work!).

What shape do your movements have? Share the result on social media. **f D** 

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MAKE A DRAWING OF THE COMPOSITION IN THE BLANK SPACE



Giacomo Balla represents a psychological idea of the movement with a code of forms, lines and colors that means dynamism. This gives rise to an abstract composition, with no figurative references, that analyses the movements of an action and shapes them into a drawing that years later would become a sculpture. On the other hand, the idea of the punch suggests us to break the links with tradition in order to advance towards a new liberating aesthetic, an idea that all the futurist artists liked and shared.