

Engaging with History:

Works

from

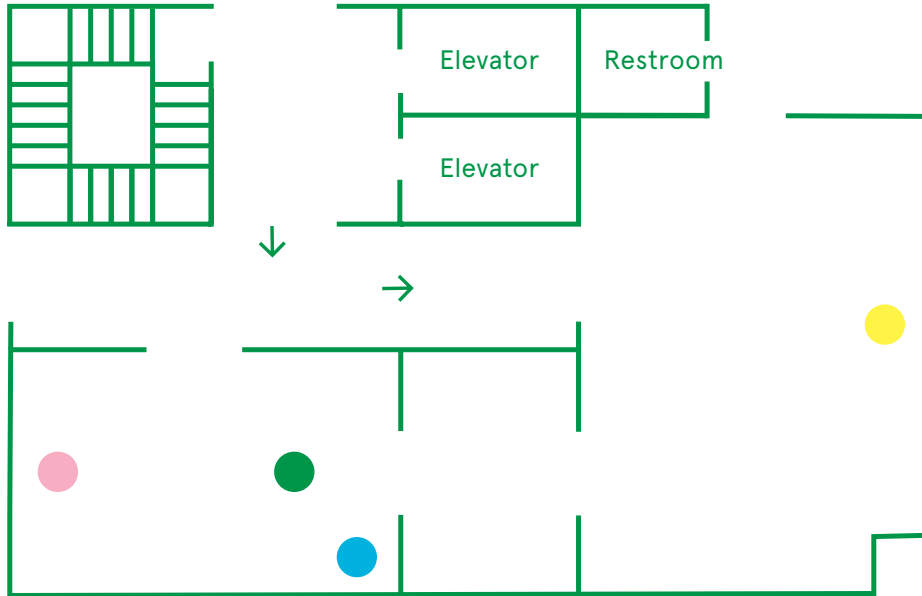
the

Collection

100 Years of
the
Collection



Floor 2



Welcome to a selection
of artworks from the
Jewish Museum's collection.

Walk through the gallery until you find a wall of photo portraits.

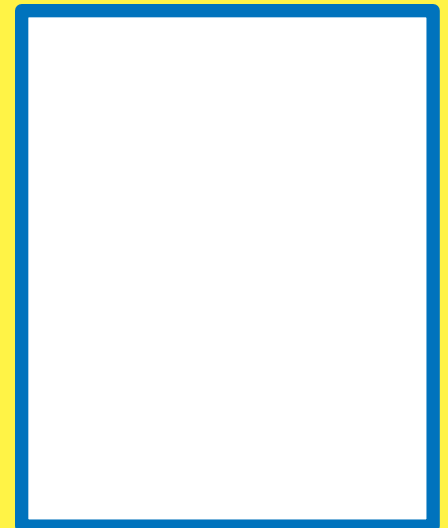
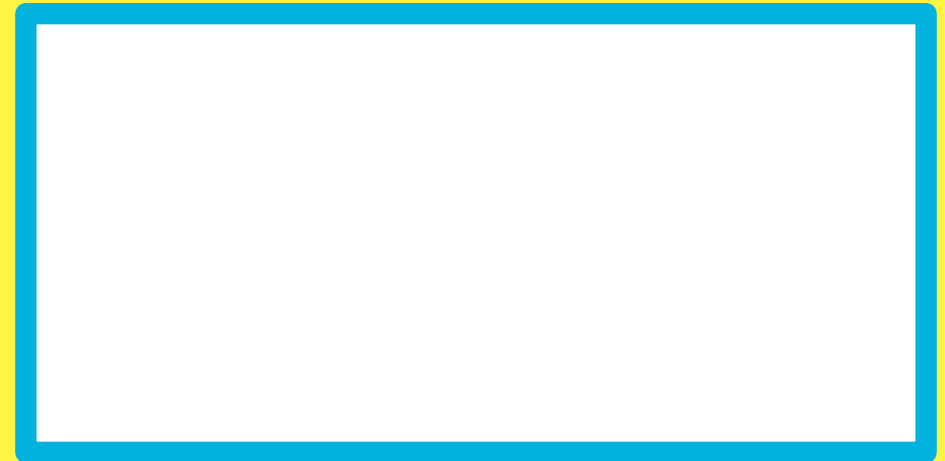
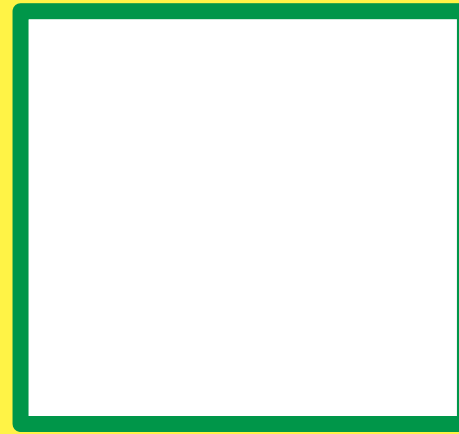
Choose one that catches your attention. Describe the person's pose and expression to your grown-up. Notice what they are wearing and the background details. What might these things tell us about the person?



Mimic the person's pose and have your grown-up take a photo of you next to the artwork.



In the frames on the right page, draw details of facial expressions or poses that you and your grown-up notice.



Continue to the next gallery and find the white sculpture that looks like a suitcase, made by the artist Arlene Shechet

↪ Walk around the sculpture and look at it from all angles.

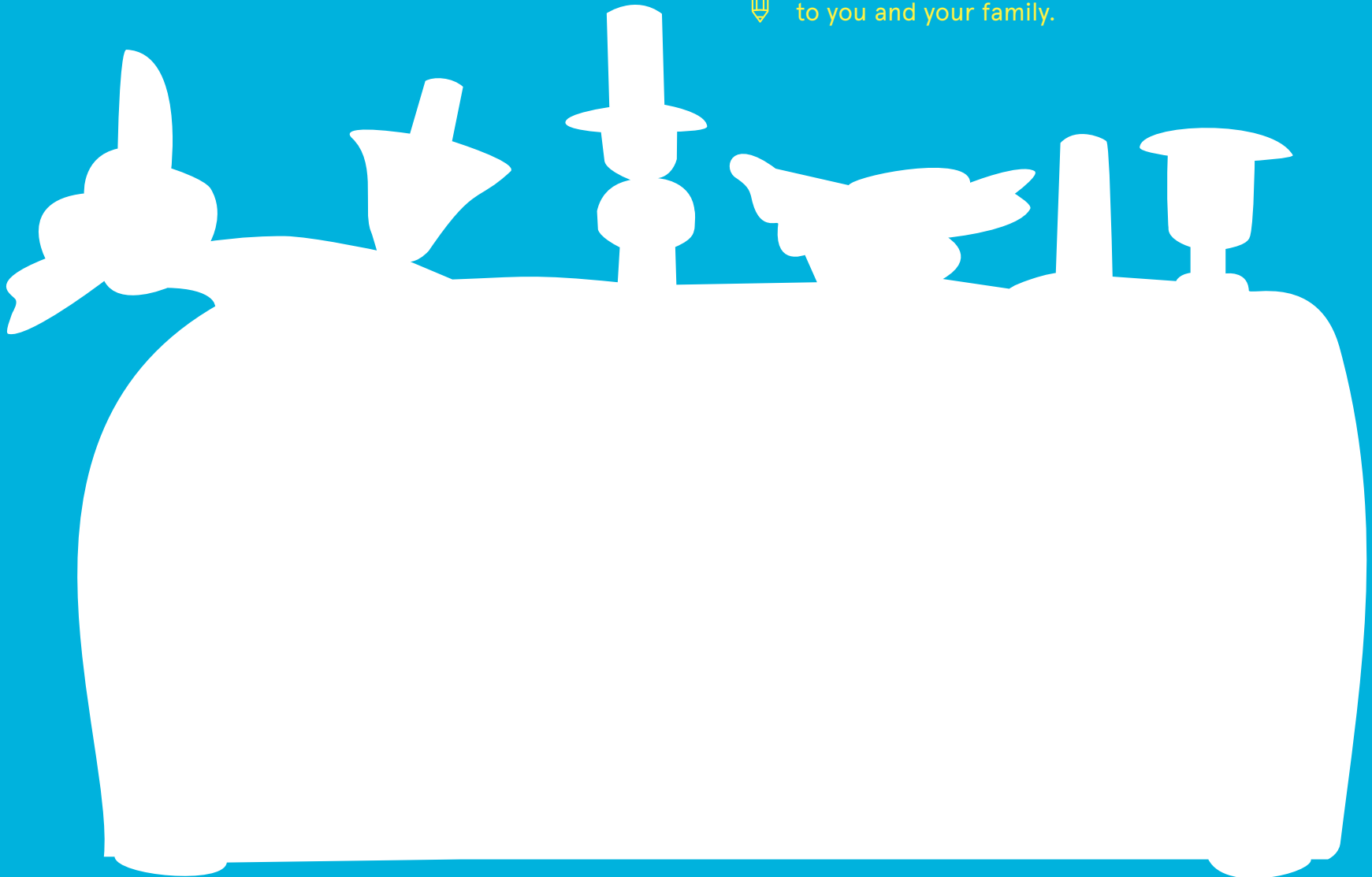
💡 Describe what you see. Do you recognize specific objects? What else stands out to you?

Shechet created copies of a pair of candlesticks her grandmother brought with her when she moved from Belarus to the United States in 1920.

💡 This sculpture is called *Travel Light*. Do you have any new thoughts about this artwork after knowing the title?

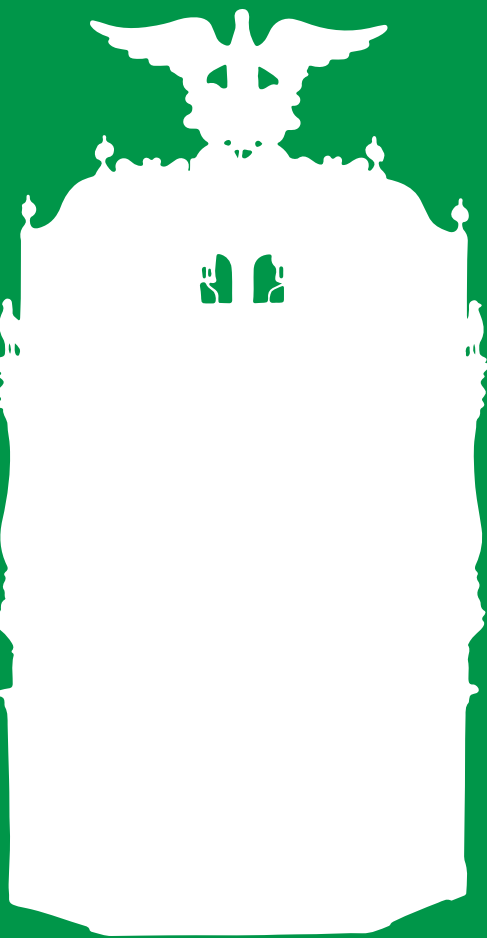
💡 What objects would you choose to bring if you moved to a new place? Why are these objects important to you?

🖋️ In the space below draw a few objects that are important to you and your family.



Turn to your left, where you'll find a large object against the wall.

This is a Torah Ark, or a cabinet that is designed to hold the scrolls of the Torah (the Five Books of Moses). Abraham Shulkin designed and built this piece for a synagogue in Sioux City, Iowa in 1899. Shulkin immigrated to the United States from Russia. For his design, Shulkin was inspired by the Torah Arks from his home country.



What materials do you think were used to make this ark?



How do you think the artist made it?

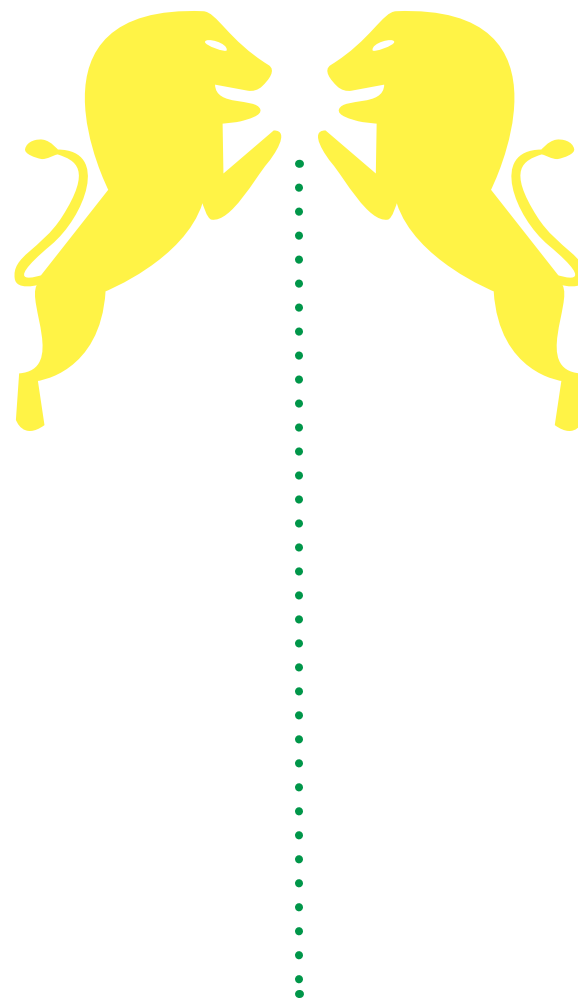


Do you recognize any animals or symbols? What do you think they might represent?

Notice that the design for the ark is symmetrical, meaning that it is the same on both sides.



Use the space below to create a symmetrical drawing. On one side, make your own design then try to mirror it on the other side.



Look at the painting next to this piece called *Alios Itzhak*, made by artist Kehinde Wiley.



Do you see any similarities between these two artworks? Talk about it with your grown-up.

Walk to the back wall in this gallery where you will find a case of Hanukkah lamps.

The artist Peter Shire designed this colorful Hanukkah menorah. He was a member of Memphis, an international group of designers inspired by African and Far Eastern cultures, Art Deco, Pop art, cartoons, toys, and 1950s design.



Describe this unique Hanukkah lamp to your grown-up.



What materials, shapes and colors do you see?



Can you find anything in this sculpture that reminds you of something from the world around you?



Imagine that you are small enough to be able to walk around this sculpture. Draw yourself and a friend climbing around the Hanukkah lamp in the outline below.





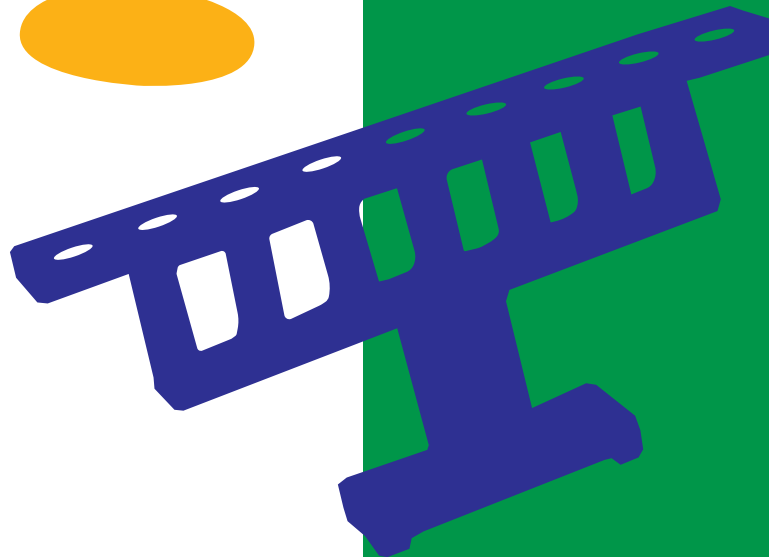
Choose another lamp that stands out to you.



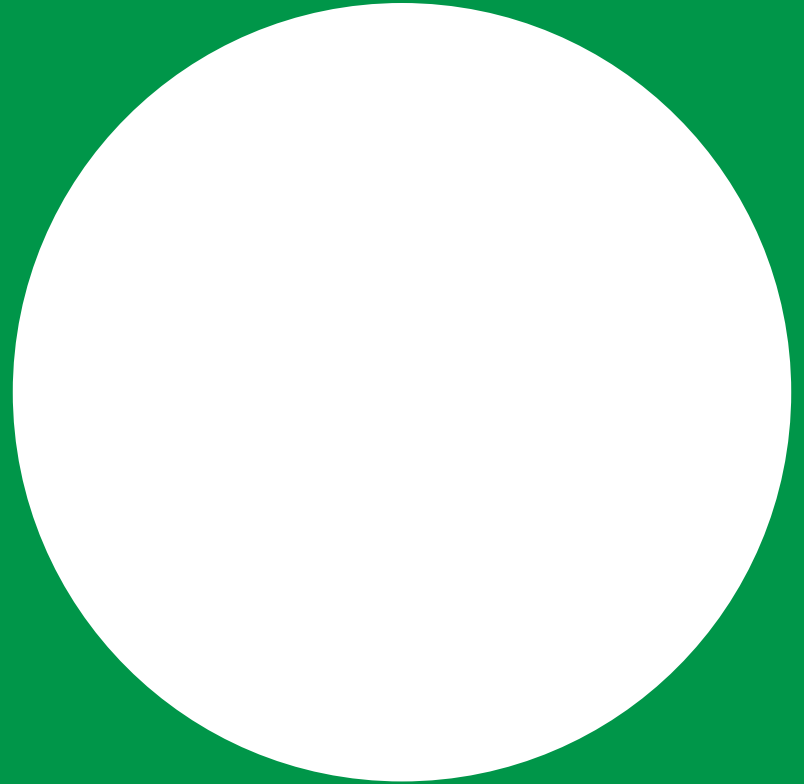
Why did you choose this lamp? What do you notice about it?



How is this similar to or different from the Hanukkah lamp made by Peter Shire?



In the white circle below, draw a detail of the lamp that you chose.



At Home



Find three objects that are special to you or your family. Arrange them in a playful way on a table. Think about the artworks you saw today and use paint, collage, or colored pencils to create an image inspired by these objects.



Thank you for visiting the exhibition. For information on Family Programs at the Jewish Museum, visit TheJewishMuseum.org/Families.

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Illustrations by Claire Zhang



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