



It's a big DEAL!

Daily Elementary Art Lesson

Day 31

Louise Nevelson

This lesson is based on the D51 Art Heritage program lesson about the artist Louise Nevelson.





Louise Nevelson

Louise Nevelson was a sculptor known for her giant wall pieces and outdoor sculptures, which she would make out of objects she found as she was walking. Most of her sculptures are painted either all black or white. Today, we will take a look at her interesting artwork, and in our next lesson, we will make art using what we learned.

- Nevelson lived from 1899–1988. She was born in Russia, but her family moved to the US when she was five years old.
- Nevelson is known for her “boxes” grouped together to form a new creation.
- She used found objects or everyday discarded things in her “assemblages.” One of her assemblages was three stories high!
- Nevelson painted her works one color, so you would notice the way the light makes highlights and shadows, instead of noticing colors.

Let’s look at some of Nevelson’s work...





Louise Nevelson

SKY CATHEDRAL

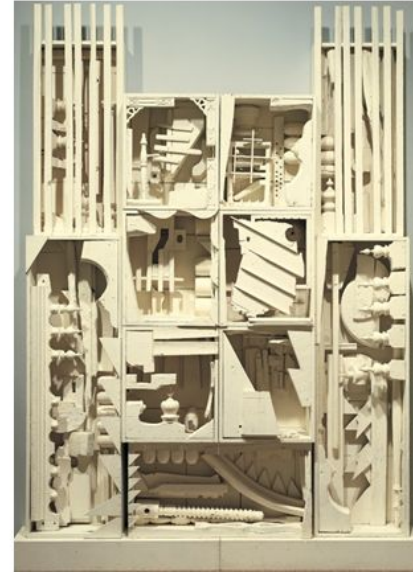
1958: Painted wood: 11' 3 1/2" x 10' x 18"



Nevelson's first sculptures were geometric arrangements of pieces of wood. She began putting the shapes in boxes and stacking them against the wall as she finished each one. Nevelson started moving the boxes around and finally combined many to make a wall piece. She painted the sculptures all one color, usually black or white.



Louise Nevelson



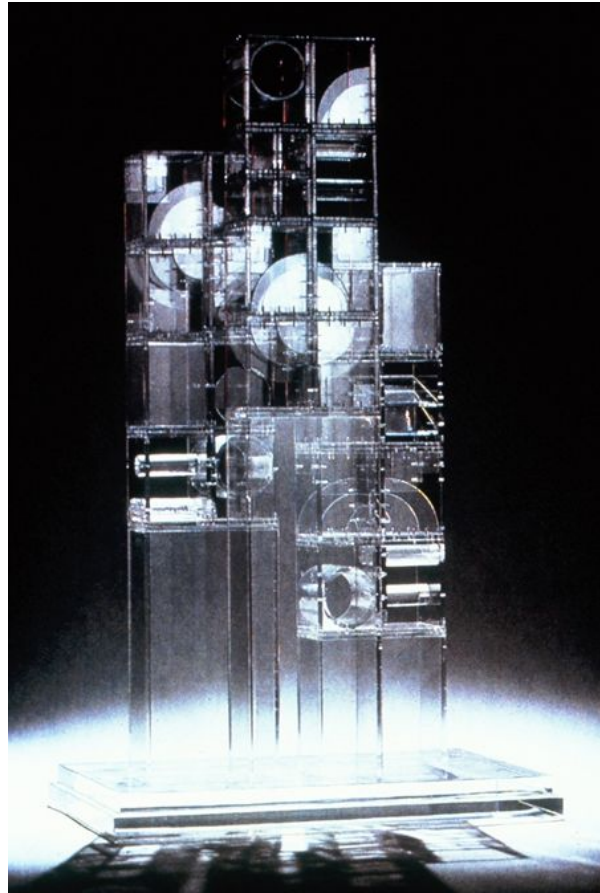
DAWN'S WEDDING FEAST,
1959–60, painted wood

Assemblage is where the artist finds things not normally used for artwork then puts them together into something new. When she created this piece, it amazed the art world. It has four "wedding chapels" with a cake, chest, mirror, pillow, bride, groom and more.



Louise Nevelson

TRANSPARENT SCULPTURE VII
1967–68: Plexiglas construction

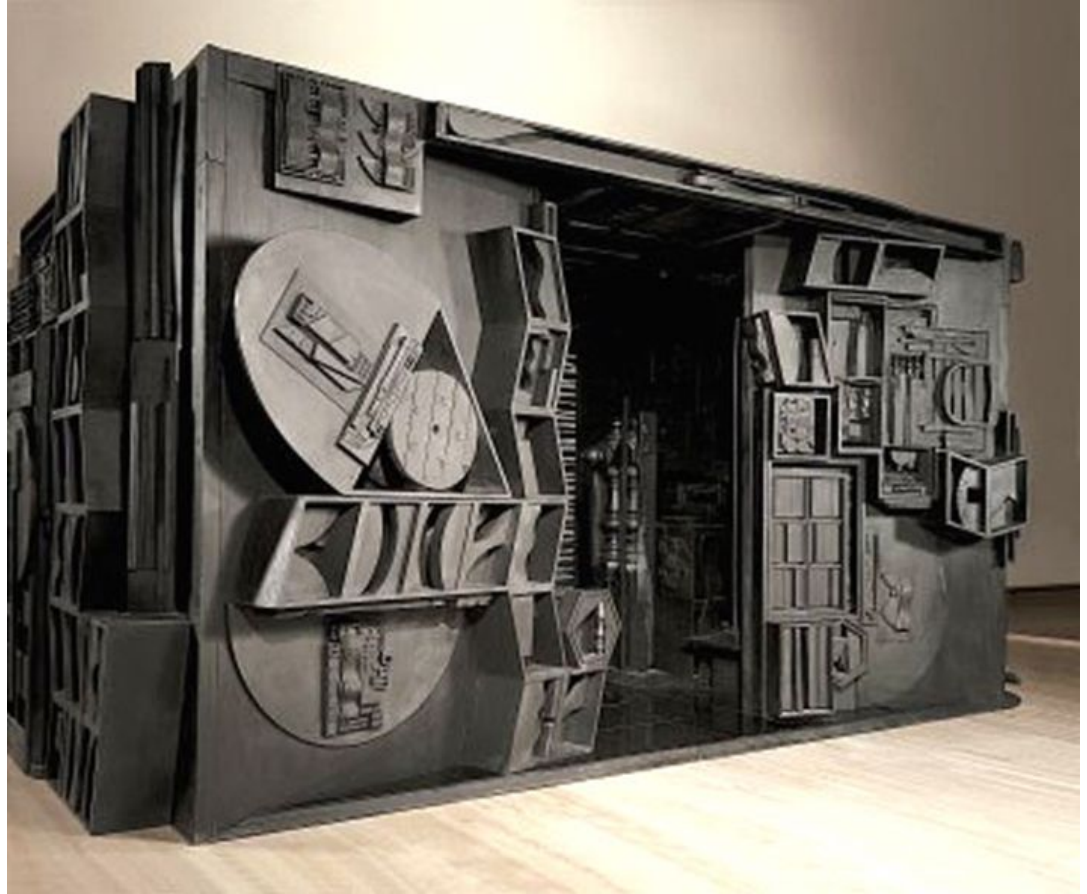


Nevelson was inspired by new materials and by technology, so she made this sculpture from Plexiglas, a clear plastic that can be bent when heated. How does this compare with her other sculptures?



Louise Nevelson

MRS. N'S PALACE, 1964–77,
Painted wood, mirror, 140 x
239 x 180"



This assemblage is like a room.
Would it be fun to have this as your playhouse?



Louise Nevelson

Nevelson's art was big, bold, and daring—and not the kind of art people expected from women of her time.

Have you seen this kind of art anywhere? Do you like Nevelson's creations? Check tomorrow's lesson! You will make an art piece with found objects, like Louise Nevelson did. See you then!



City on the High Mountain