

Landmarks Guide For Younger Children



Raoul Hague

American, born in Turkey, 1904-1993

Big Indian Mountain

1965-1966

Black walnut

Subject: Abstract forms

Activity: Make your own sculpture using Play-Doh.

Materials: Flour, salt, cream of tartar, water, and vegetable oil

Vocabulary: Abstract, form

i Introduction

Raoul Hague made *Big Indian Mountain* by carving a huge walnut tree. Hague is an **abstract** artist, which means his sculptures don't look exactly like the real things they are modeled after. Instead, the artist is inspired by the shapes, patterns, and energy he sees in nature and in the trees he carves.

? Questions

What kind of lines do you see on the sculpture? Are they straight, curved, or wiggly?

How do you think the sculpture would look or feel if it were made from something else, like stone, clay, or marble?

Raoul Hague, continued



Activity

- Find a grown-up to help you with this activity.
- Stir together 2 cups of flour, $\frac{3}{4}$ cup of salt, and 4 teaspoons of cream of tartar in a large pot.
- Add 2 cups of water and 2 tablespoons of vegetable oil.
- Cook over medium heat, stirring constantly, until the dough thickens and starts forming a ball.
- Remove from heat and place the dough in a bowl. Let it cool slightly, then knead until smooth.
- Now it's time to play. Shape your dough into your own sculpture. Think about the lines, curves, and **forms** you see in *Big Indian Mountain* as you create.



BTW

Big Indian Mountain is named after a mountain near the artist's studio. Many of his works are named after the materials he uses or the places he makes them.



Vocabulary

Abstract – Art that doesn't look exactly like real things, but gives a sense of them.

Form – A shape you can hold or see from all sides.