

# Landmarks Guide for Older Children



## Joel Perlman

American, born 1943

### *Square Tilt*

1983

Steel

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**Subject:** Geometric abstraction

**Activity:** Creating a sculpture that uses a frame

**Materials:** Glue and different shapes or sizes of cardboard or balsa wood

**Vocabulary:** Diagonal, geometric abstraction, horizontal, steel, vertical

## Introduction

Joel Perlman studied art in New York, California, and London, England. He created abstract steel sculptures that are best seen from the front, like the way we look at paintings. Perlman often creates a heavy steel frame for his sculptures and attaches smaller steel plates to it. In this way, he draws our attention to the sculpture as well as to the subject that it frames. Joel Perlman's style is geometric abstraction.

## Questions

Are the lines of this sculpture horizontal, vertical, or diagonal?

Why do you think the artist named this sculpture *Square Tilt*?

What mood do these lines convey?

What material was used to create this sculpture?

## Activity

Using different shapes and sizes of cardboard or balsa wood, create a rectangular frame and attach geometric shapes to it. Experiment with locating it in different places and study the subjects you frame. How do the subjects change when they are framed versus unframed? How does tilting the frame at various angles change the way they look?



### Vocabulary

**Diagonal** - Positioned on a slant

**Geometric abstraction** - Geometric shapes that are not realistic

**Horizontal** - Positioned the same as the horizon and the opposite of vertical

**Steel** - A strong dark metal

**Vertical** - Positioned upright, like a flagpole, and opposite of horizontal