



Interactive Exercise: Thought Ladder Sammy Baloji

Spending time with a work of art can be an opportunity for thoughtful inquiry and ideation. For students, documenting their ideas as they work to interpret an artwork offers the chance to exercise metacognition. With this interactive exercise, featuring artwork by Congolese artist Sammy Baloji, students can gain insight into how they process information and formulate ideas.

Grade Level:	Grades 6-8, Grades 9-12
Collection:	African Art
Culture/Region:	Africa
Subject Area:	Creative Thinking, Critical Thinking, History and Social Science, Photography, Visual Arts
Activity Type:	Distance Learning, Engagement Activity

At your own pace, click through the slides below to activate your critical and creative thinking as you interpret an artwork by contemporary Congolese artist Sammy Baloji. You may wish to click on the “full screen” icon for the best view.

Other objects to try

You may wish to try the [Thought Ladder](#) exercise with other VMFA artworks. What do you think of these?

King's Beaded Robe

Unknown (Artist)



A Terrible Beauty Is Born

Mary Sibande, South African, born 1982 (Artist)



Side-Blown Horn

Unknown (Artist)



Crown

Unknown (Artist)



Bust of a European Man

Unknown (Artist)



Barber's Sign

Unknown (Artist)



You may wish to try the [Thought Ladder](#) exercise with other VMFA



artworks. What do you think of these?