

GALLERY HUNT

Celebrate African and African American

Art—Jazz

Jazz grew from many influences, including African drumming, folk music, marching bands, and European musical forms. This truly American invention is known for energetic and improvisational sounds. Look through the VMFA galleries to discover jazzy facts and musical connections.



African Art Gallery, Level 2

The introduction of Dixieland jazz brought the trumpet to the forefront of the style, especially when played by legends like Louis Armstrong. This side-blown trumpet is from the Bamana culture of Africa. How is it similar to or different from today's brass trumpet?



Mellon Focus Gallery- Domestic, Wild, Divine, Level 2

By using a variety of shapes and materials, Romare Bearden created patterns and forms similar to the way jazz rhythms combine different beats and sounds. List the shapes you see in this work. _____



American Art Gallery, Level 2

The Harlem Renaissance was a time when African Americans celebrated their heritage and culture through visual art and jazz. The figures in Aaron Douglas's art are styled in what he called "Egyptian forms." Imagine you are one of the figures in this painting. What sounds do you hear? _____



American Art Gallery, Level 2

Stuart Davis found jazz full of surprise and connections at the same time, much like his paintings. This work pops with large, bold letters and bright colors. If you could use one word in your painting, what would it be? _____