



We invite teachers and their students to a very unique exhibition at the Castellani Art Museum September 26, 2005 – February 12, 2006

The Exquisite Corpse in Glass: *Figurative Flameworkers Play a Surrealist Game*

Ten internationally-recognized figurative glass sculptors were invited to “play” a modern version of the Surrealist game, *cadavre exquis* (exquisite corpse). In the original game, the players would write words on bits of paper, which would then be drawn at random to create nonsensical (or amazingly profound) sentences. The first sentence ever created this way gave the game its name: “The exquisite corpse drinks the young wine.” The game can also be played with art, and our exhibition will be the first to see it realized in glass!

For this exhibition, each artist has created two figures in flameworked glass, one male and one female, in three parts: head, torso, and legs. Before installing the exhibition, labels identifying the multiple body parts will be drawn at random and the figures will then be assembled accordingly.

We invite you to bring your class to this unique exhibition and create an exquisite corpse artwork, in the spirit of the surrealist game, to be displayed at the museum! Materials and instructions for this activity will be provided during your visit. If you are unable to come for a tour, please copy the enclosed “How to Create an Exquisite Corpse” template with instructions for a classroom activity and mail the finished artwork for display. For more information on this and other educational programs, visit our website @ www.niagara.edu/cam.

Teachers are encouraged to instruct students beforehand on the history of Surrealism, a post World War I movement comprised of writers and artists, founded by André Breton in 1924. The Surrealists sought to interpret the workings of the subconscious mind through the use of fantastic imagery and the unusual juxtaposition of subject matter that often defies logical, conscious understanding.

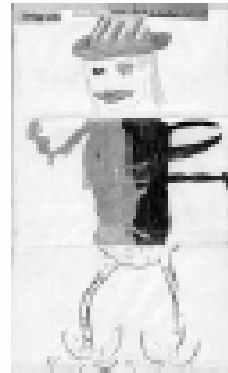
To book a tour for your class, please call the Castellani Art Museum at 286-8200.



Exquisite Corpse Game

History of the *Cadavre Exquis*

Among Surrealist techniques exploiting the mystique of accident was a kind of collective collage of words or images called the *cadavre exquis* (exquisite corpse). Based on an old parlor game, it was played by several people, each of whom would write a phrase on a sheet of paper, fold the paper to conceal part of it, and pass it on to the next player for his contribution. The technique received its name from results obtained in the initial playing of the game, *Le cadavre exquis boira le vin nouveau* (The exquisite corpse will drink the young wine).



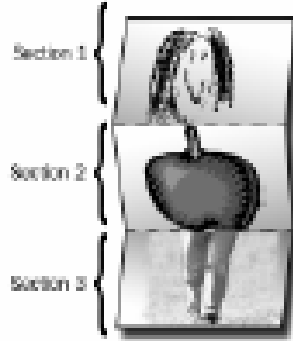
ART 201111306: Media to play the Exquisite Corpse game a lot



How to Create an Exquisite Corpse

This interactive project follows the same principles as the original game created at the turn of the century! This game is designed to be played with three people. You can use multiple mediums—drawing, collage, paint—to create a more interesting result or mix up the materials on each section.

- 1 Cut out each template below, following cut lines indicated by scissors.
- 2 Fold each piece into three sections (see folds on each piece as indicated in the diagrams.)
- 3 Without letting anyone see, player #1 creates something in section #1. Player #1 continues the lines at the bottom of section #1 slightly over onto section #2.
- 4 Player #1 then folds section #1 over—so no one can see what has been drawn—and passes the paper on to player #2.
- 5 Starting with the lines from section #1, player #2 (who hasn't seen section #1) continues these lines to create his/her own design for section #2, then continues the lines from section #2 slightly over onto section #3.



- 6 Player #2 then folds section #2 over—so that no one can see what has been drawn—and passes the paper to player #3.
- 7 Continue until all the sections are filled. Then unfold the paper and see what you have created!
- 8 Now that you have completed your Exquisite Corpse game, bring your creation to the Castellani Art Museum for display as part of the "Exquisite Corpse" exhibition. You can also mail your artwork to the museum at:
Exquisite Corpse Game
Castellani Art Museum
Niagara University, New York 14109
(Please note that artworks will NOT be returned)

