

Thematic Area
ANIMALS

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CREATURES IN MOTION

*Discover how to bring movement to
your artworks through materials!*

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Welcome!

In the Chauvet Cave in France, extraordinary depictions of animals (horses, rhinoceroses, deer, bison) were discovered, engraved on the walls about 30,000 years ago. This shows how humans have always been fascinated by the animal world: some animals were admired for their strength and even worshipped as deities, while others were hunted for the survival of tribes.

Throughout different eras and cultures, the most frequently represented animal is the lion, considered the noblest of creatures: its golden-colored mane symbolizes power. The golden-yellow feathers on the head of the golden eagle have also made it a long-standing symbol of the sky and the sun.

In Middle Eastern mythology, the griffin is a fantastic creature with the body of a lion and the beak, wings, and claws of an eagle—making it the most powerful animal of both earth and sky.

In ancient Greece, the owl became the symbol of the wise goddess Athena.

Over the centuries, painters have studied the anatomy of both humans and animals to achieve realism—among them, Leonardo da Vinci, who left us precious notebooks filled with animal anatomy drawings.

materials

To complete the activity in this sheet, you'll need a pencil, modeling clay, and simple tools like toothpicks, toothbrushes, or sticks.

**BE
GREEN**

You can print only pages
4, 5, or 6 to do the
activity!



The artist Salvador Dalí once said:

*"The least one can
ask of a sculpture is
that it stands still."*

Let's Begin

Observe this artwork by Bekhbaatar Enkhtur titled “Туулай - туулай”, which means “Hare” in Mongolian, the artist’s native language. He uses aluminum, a very ductile and malleable material, allowing him to shape these hares as if they were sculptures resting on a two-dimensional base.

Scan the QR code to view the artwork in high resolution.

Notice how the artist gives three-dimensionality, realism, and movement to his work. By following the natural curves of the leg muscles, he shapes the aluminum to emphasize every anatomical detail, giving volume to the hares. The texture of the fur, created by gently pressing and dragging fingers across the aluminum, evokes the sensation of thick fur—adding another layer of realism to the sculpture.



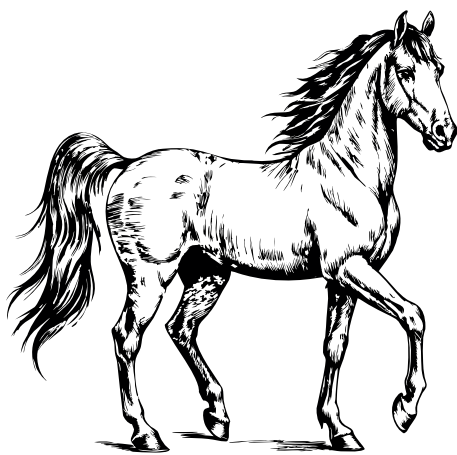
Bekhbaatar Enkhtur, *Hare*, 2021

Now It's Your Turn!

What to do?

Choose one of the three animals to recreate in the style of Bekhbaatar Enkhtur. Use the images on the next pages as a guide and sketch it with a pencil. Then take the modeling clay and begin sculpting your animal, following the tips next to the figures—make sure to read all three!

Remember: your sculpture should physically rest on your drawing, so use the paper as a base for your work.

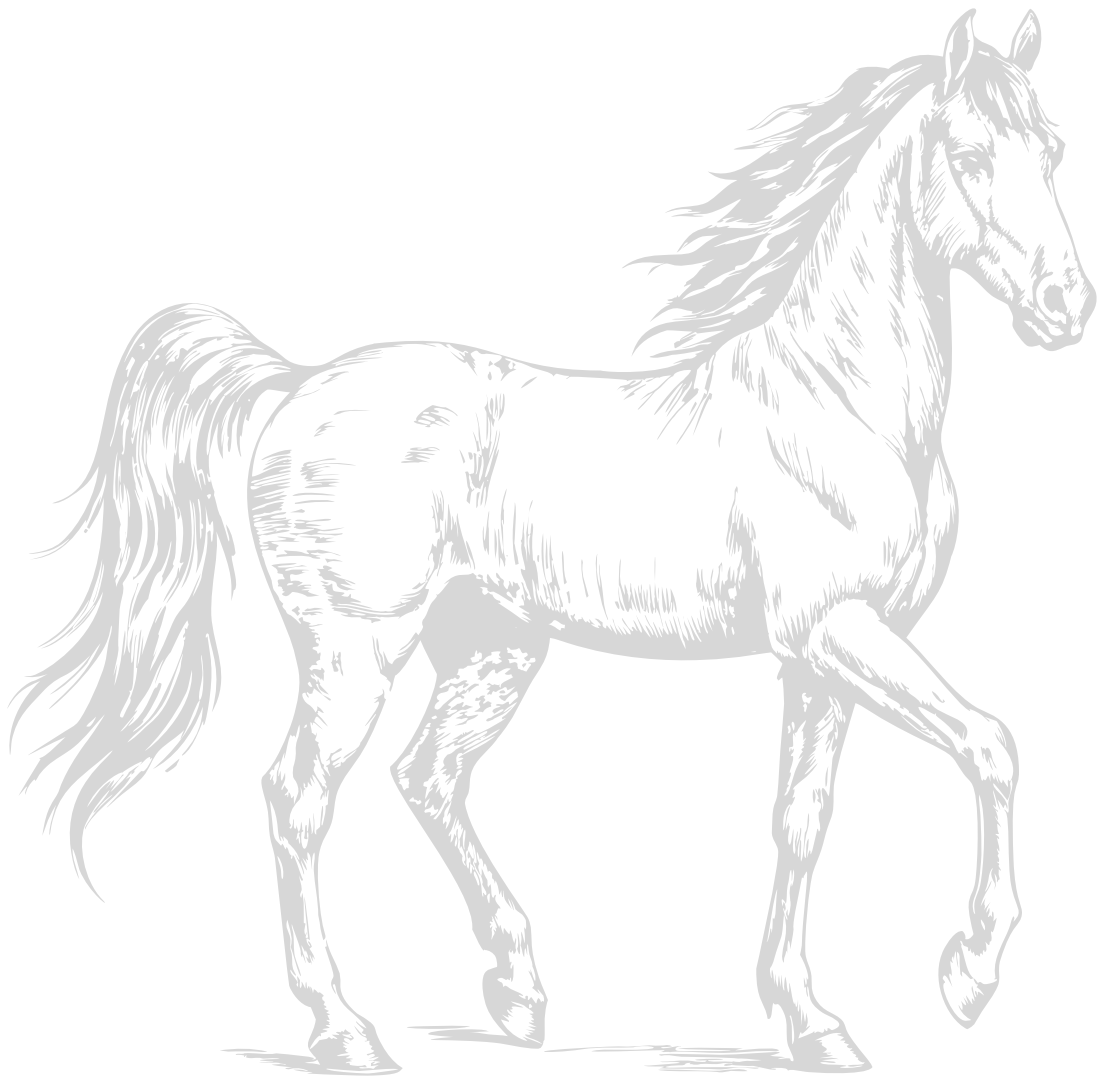


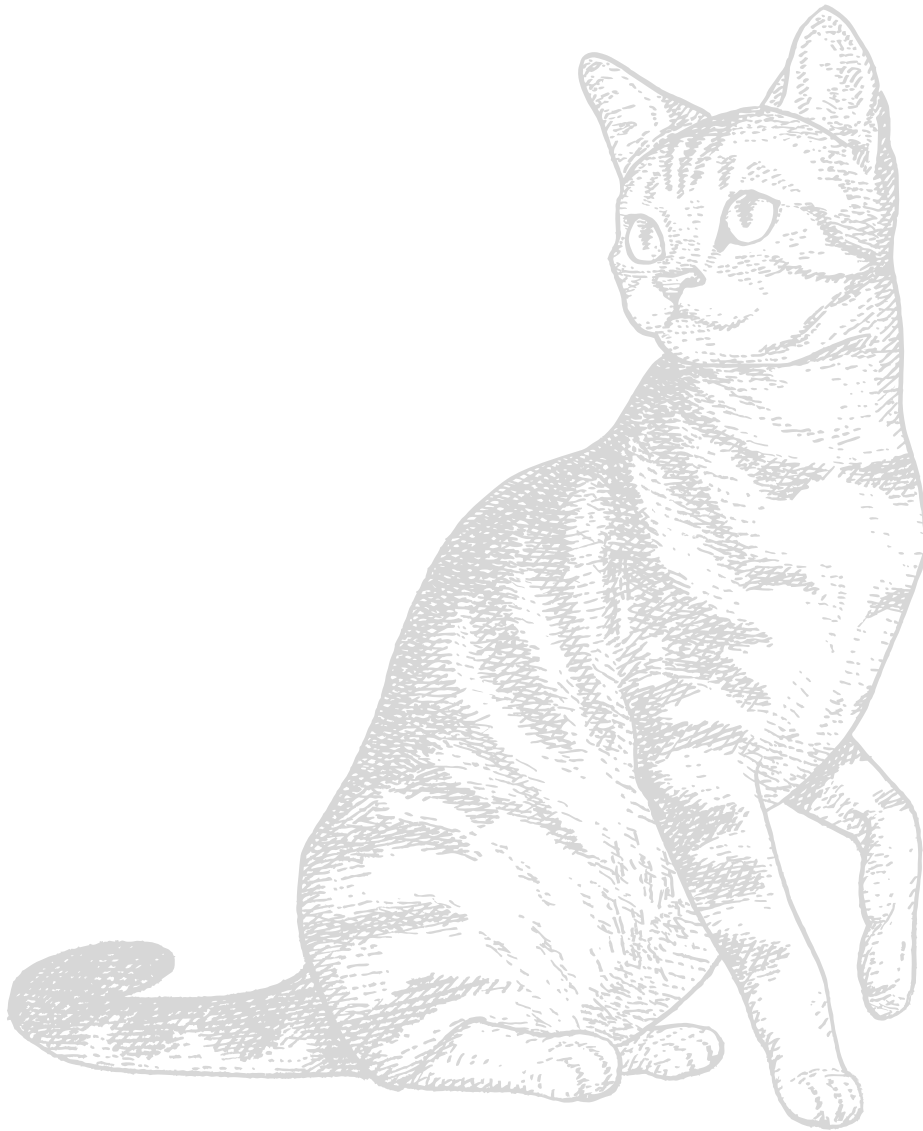
Observe the muscles, especially in the neck and legs. Use your finger or a pointed tool to carve deeper lines along the muscles, as if sculpting the hind legs or neck. This will make the horse come alive, as if galloping!

Look closely at the fur. You can recreate this texture by rubbing a toothpick or toothbrush over the clay surface. Use gentle strokes to create a soft, furry effect!



To create depth, use more clay in the lighter areas (like the body) so they appear raised and closer to the viewer. Use less clay in the darker areas (like the wings) to make them appear further away.







About the Artist

► **Bekhbaatar Enkhtur** was born in 1994 in Mongolia and, after moving to Italy, studied sculpture at the Academy of Fine Arts in Bologna. His artistic research focuses on materials and the idea of change as a characteristic of all things. Over time, every object and being loses its original meaning and takes on a new one: energy is not consumed—it only changes form.

The artist shapes a living world between reality and imagination, drawing visual inspiration from nomadic culture and his homeland. Now living and working in Turin, he sees sculpture not as a fixed, monumental object, but as a being that participates in life, has a soul, and can wear down. His works are dynamic: they interact with the space around them, with time that erodes them, and with the viewer who questions them.

Did you know... The sculptor uses organic, malleable materials like clay and beeswax to create figures that seem alive and are inspired by traditional Mongolian forms.

Did you know... In Bekhbaatar Enkhtur's artworks, you can often see the artist's fingerprints: with every touch and mark left on the surface, he aims to transmit energy and vitality. In doing so, he reaffirms the physicality, imperfection, and slow labor of the hands—in an era increasingly dominated by virtual, computer-generated images.