

Earth Art Artist Choices

Earth art, also referred to as Land art or Earthworks, is an art movement that uses the natural landscape to create site-specific structures, art forms, and sculptures.

Key Ideas:

- > Influenced by prehistoric artworks such as Stonehenge, Earth artists leave their structures exposed to the elements instead of museums where works of art are protected in controlled environments.
- > Earth artists often utilize available materials at the site on which their works were constructed to honor the specificity of the site. Favored materials are directly from nature, such as stones, water, gravel, leaves and soil.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/environment/photos/land-earth-art-gallery/>

(1) ARTIST: Robert Smithson The Spiral Jetty 1970

Materials: Black basalt rock, salt crystals, earth, water **Location:** Rozel Point, Great Salt Lake

<https://utah.com/great-salt-lake-state-park/spiral-jetty>



(2) ARTIST: Mark Dion

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/places/neukom-vivarium-olympic-sculpture-park>

The most famous of Dion's works is **Neukom Vivarium**, a permanent installation located in the Olympic Sculpture Park in Seattle. A 60-foot Western Hemlock had fallen outside of the city in 1996 and ten years later, Dion used it as the nurse log inside an 80-foot greenhouse. The tree "inhabits an art system," according to the Seattle Art Museum. By "inhabits," they mean insects, fungi, lichen, and other plants. Visitors are provided with magnifying glasses and field guides. Neukom Vivarium is an ever-evolving piece with bacteria and mushrooms appearing one day may be replaced with moss and bugs the very next.



(3) ARTIST: Andy Goldsworthy (*my personal favorite! Beautiful documentaries available*)

https://www.boredpanda.com/land-art-andy-goldsworthy/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=organic

Goldsworthy aims to help people notice nature once again and ponder all of its magical mysteries. By creating sculptures made of all-natural materials and constructing them in their original environment, Goldsworthy is able to observe the effects of time in nature. Andy Goldsworthy uses many techniques in his artworks such as, circles, lines and spirals because he is reflecting off nature and the surrounded around him.



"I want to get under the surface. When I work with a leaf, rock, or stick,