



Artist: Neal Ambrose-Smith

Artwork: *č'č'en' u kwes x^wúyi* (*Where are you going?*), 2021, neon, wood, transformers, timer, copyright the artist.

From the exhibition [Neal Ambrose-Smith: č'č'en' u kwes x^wúyi \(Where Are You Going?\)](#) on view at the Missoula Art Museum in the Lynda M. Frost Gallery of Contemporary American Indian Art from August 31, 2021, to February 26, 2022.

Age range: The whole family!

Create: Make your own signature doodles!

Materials: Anything that you can make marks WITH (pencil, pen, crayon, chalk, your finger) and anything you can make marks ON (paper, cardboard, the sidewalk, a frosty window, some pudding on a plate!) Use your imagination.

Prompt: Neal Ambrose-Smith likes to draw. The neon piece above is actually a re-creation of one of his signature doodles. Doodles are simple drawings that we make while our minds are otherwise occupied. (Wikipedia) Those marks we find ourselves making over and over can be so satisfying. What will your signature doodle look like?

Instructions:

1. You could start with paper and pencil, or whatever materials you have on hand. While listening to music, watching a show, or talking to friends, just let your hand make its own marks on the paper. Don't focus too closely or try to draw something specific. Let yourself be distracted but keep your hand moving.
2. You might even experiment with several different doodling sessions. Do your doodles look different depending on what you're doing? Collect all the marks you make.
3. Notice if there are certain marks that occur again and again. Notice if there are certain marks that your hand just seems to enjoy making more than others.
4. Now experiment recreating your doodle on other materials:
 - Fog a windowpane with your breath and make your doodle there.

- Smooth out some carpet or a fuzzy blanket (or your dog's belly) and create your doodle there.
- Use a piece of bread to draw your doodle in the spaghetti sauce from your dinner.
- Can you draw your doodle in water? Snow? Sand? Air? Neal Ambrose-Smith made his doodle out of neon! The possibilities are endless!
- If you would like to, share your doodle with a friend or on social media using the hashtag #saturdayswithMAM and tag us @missoulaartmuseum.