

## KIDS @ CAM – At Home Family Projects

Spotlight on CAM's Collection

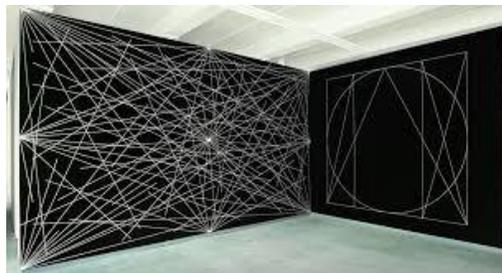
### SOL LEWITT

About the Artist:

"The idea becomes the machine that makes the art." – Sol Lewitt

Solomon "Sol" LeWitt (1928 – 2007) was an American artist linked to various movements, including Conceptual art and Minimalism. He was known for his drawings, paintings and sculptures (which he referred to as "structures". LeWitt stated that ideas, not physical creations, are the substance of art. LeWitt's methods of using lines, shapes, blocks, and other simple elements made him a key figure in Minimalist Art. However, his primary legacy is his vital role in the development of Conceptual Art. He believed that concepts and ideas are the substance of art, not the final piece that is created.

He developed instructions for wall drawings that are still being created to this day. LeWitt began developing guidelines and diagrams for making works of art by drawing directly on the wall. At first, they used a graphite pencil, then crayon, colored pencil, and later India ink, acrylic paint, and other materials. Many of LeWitt's wall drawings were executed by other people using his guidelines. LeWitt stated that the wall drawings are never the same, as everyone understands the instructions differently and draws lines uniquely. Even after his death, LeWitt wall drawings are still being produced. Many are created for exhibitions and destroyed once the exhibition is over.



## ART AT HOME – WALL DRAWING #118

### What You'll Need:

- Large sheet of paper on a wall
- Pencil
- Straight Edges (long enough to work on the size of paper you're using)

In 1971 Sol Lewitt visited the School of the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. Instead of giving a lecture, he gave the students instructions to create a drawing. Below are the exact instructions:

On a wall surface, any continuous stretch of wall, using a hard pencil, place fifty points at random. The points should be evenly distributed over the area of the wall. All of the points should be connected by straight lines.

- Step 1 – Attach your large paper/ drawing surface securely to the wall.
- Step 2 – Follow Sol Lewitt's instructions.

### Tips:

- Though it may sound simple, connecting 50 points can take a very long time and be very large in scale. You can choose a lower number if you prefer.
- After you are done, look up how other people interpreted this same assignment!

### Questions for discussion:

- Do you think Sol Lewitt is the artist of this work? He came up with the idea, but you (and others) have created it.
- Sol Lewitt is one of many artists who came up with the idea for a work of art and had other people execute it. Should the people that make the art be given the same amount of credit as the person with the idea?
- How did you feel while making this work? Did you enjoy it? Was it relaxing? Was it tedious? Talk about the way you felt throughout the process.

### Follow Up Project Idea:

- It's your turn to come up with the idea! Write down instructions for a simple drawing project and have a family member make it. You also make a drawing from your instructions and the two of you (or group of you) can compare your final results when you're done.

