

WIFREDO LAM

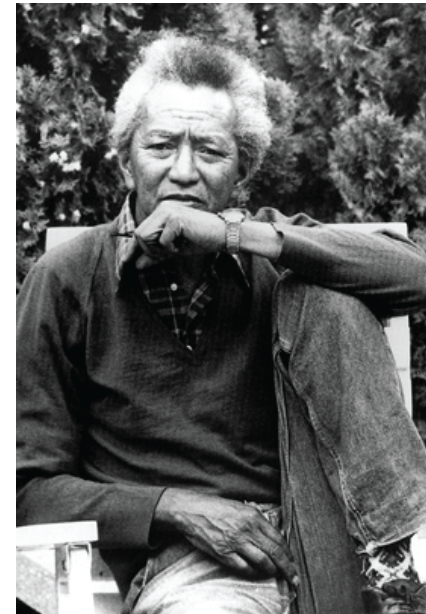
in North America

A FAMILY GUIDE TO THE EXHIBITION



HAGGERTY MUSEUM OF ART
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY

WIFREDO LAM



Wifredo Lam

Wifredo Lam was born in Sagua la Grande, **CUBA** in 1902. In 1916, his family moved to Havana where he attended the Escuela de Bellas Artes.

When he was 21, Lam moved to **SPAIN** to study at the Museo del Prado.

He later moved to Paris and became interested in **MODERN** art.

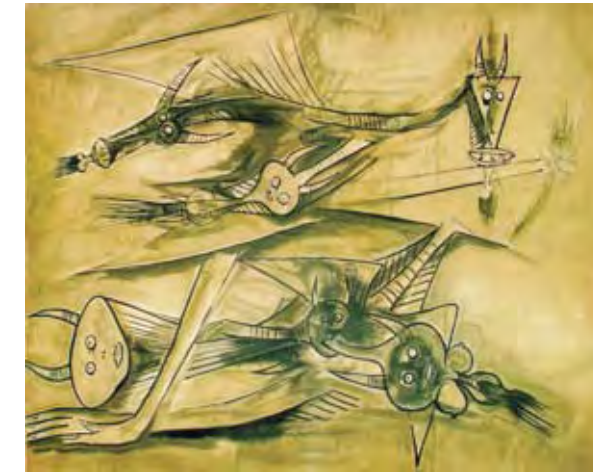
During World War II, he returned home to Cuba and developed an entirely new **STYLE** of his own.

Wifredo Lam combined personal experiences with ritual-inspired objects from his Afro-Cuban **HERITAGE** to create images that reflect universal themes.

INFLUENCES

LOOK AROUND THE GALLERIES.
CAN YOU FIND THESE SUBJECTS IN THE WIFREDO LAM PAINTINGS?

- Symbolic creatures
- Vegetal-animal forms
- Cycles of life and death
- Horse-headed figures
- Mask-like facial features
- Lush natural environments
- Spirit figures
- Large hands
- Bird-like forms
- African-derived forms
- Stories from religion



Wifredo Lam
Untitled, 1942
Oil on canvas
Collection of Ramon and Nercys Cernuda
Miami, Florida

Wifredo Lam incorporated masks into his cubist work as well as ritual-inspired objects from his Afro-Cuban background.

DO YOU SEE THESE MASKS USED AS FACIAL FEATURES IN PAINTINGS BY WIFREDO LAM?



Mask
Fang
Gabon
Musée du quai Branly
Paris



Mask
Mahongwe
Republic of Congo
Museum Modern Art
New York



Mask
Baule
Ivory Coast
Musée Picasso
Paris



Mask
Dan
Ivory Coast
Museum Reitberg
Zurich

ORIGIN

How has Wifredo Lam depicted the **THEME** of family or mother and child?

How has he used the same artistic **ELEMENTS** [color, line, shape, space, and texture] to create different artworks with different meanings?

Look at the Mother and Child paintings below by Pablo Picasso and Mary Cassatt. How are these paintings similar to Lam's Mother and Child painting? How are they different?



Mary Cassatt
Mother Playing with Child, 1897
Pastel on woven paper, mounted on cardboard
Metropolitan Museum of Art
New York



Wifredo Lam
Mother and Child, 1939
Oil on canvas
Museum of Modern Art
New York



Pablo Picasso
Mother and Child, 1907
Oil on canvas
Musée Picasso
Paris

"African artists had been sculpting masks as early as Paleolithic times, continuing to do so through the Kingdoms of the Dogon, the Baule, the Basongye and the Dan. The masks were typically used as stand-ins for the gods, deities or spirits of ancestors." [Lowrey Stokes Sims]

