

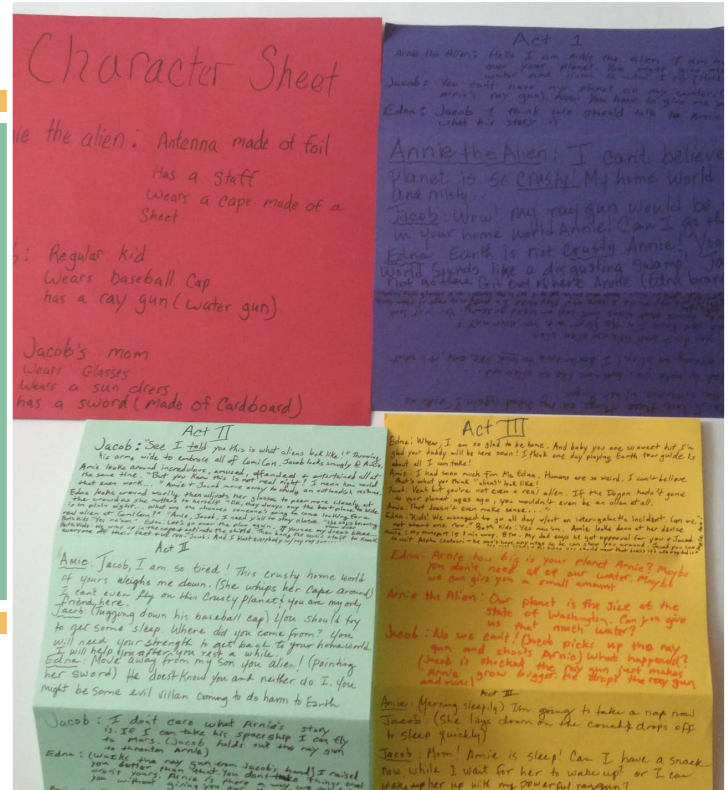
AN EXQUISITE CORPSE OPERA IN THREE ACTS

The *Magic Flute* sculptures are extraordinary because they come from a strong narrative. The story has characters that are each drastically different, which allows for elaborate costuming and props.

Glass sculpture has a history that is tied to beautiful and functional art. Jerry Hovanec and Ralph Harvey were inspired by the 1975 film adaptation of *The Magic Flute*, an opera written in the 1770s by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Their glass sculptures gave life to the story in a new way by using the narrative's beauty instead of function.

You and your family will develop an opera using the Exquisite Corpse technique, which was created by a group of artists called The Surrealists. In this exercise, each person takes a turn writing a phrase on a sheet of paper, folding it over to conceal part of it, before passing it on to the next person.

The idea is to write a story without knowing what came before it.



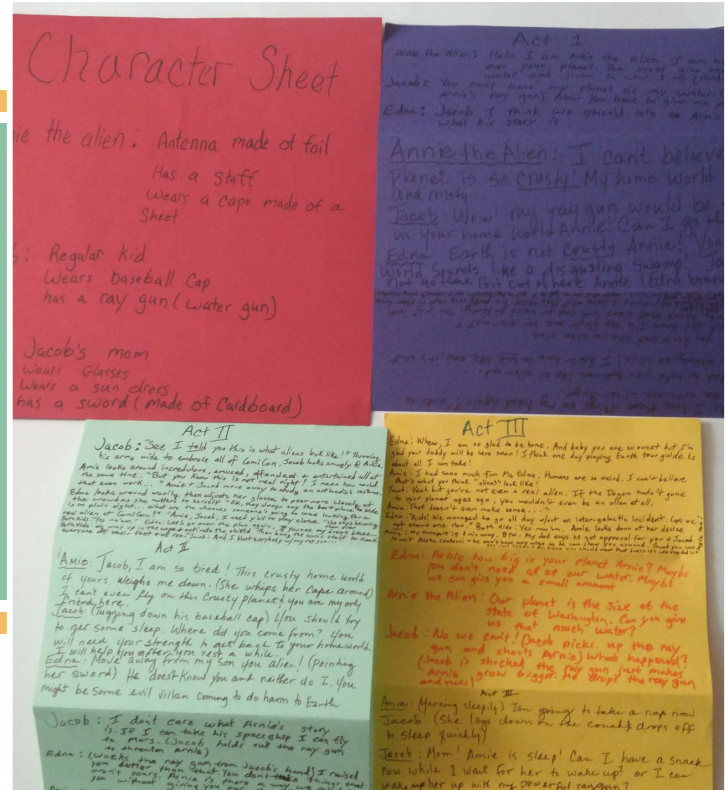
MATERIALS:

- Four pieces of paper
- Colored writing utensil with a color for each family member
- Creative props and costuming

LEARNING STANDARDS:

- Theatre 1:** Generate and conceptualize artistic ideas and work.
- Theatre 4:** Select, analyze, and interpret artistic work for presentation.

AN EXQUISITE CORPSE OPERA IN THREE ACTS (CONT.)



INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The first piece of paper will be the character sheet. Each family member will create a character that they will play in the family opera. The description of the character will include what they look like, costuming, props that are around the house, and the name of the character. Each family member's character will be unique and created by them. Post the character sheet to a wall in a visible place while the family creates the narrative.
2. Three separate script sheets, labeled Act 1, Act 2, Act 3, etc., will be created for each act. Fold each of the three script sheets into sections that correspond with the number of family members. Example: If there are three family members, fold the papers into three sections. Each of these sections will be a scene.
3. Each family member will write one scene per Act. The scenes should include a location, one action, and a line for every character.
4. After you have finished your scene, flip the page over so the next family member can only see the next blank space.
5. Each family member will fill in their scene pages one after the other until everyone has written a scene on each of the three Acts.
6. Unfold each page so that you can see the whole script.
7. Change into your costumes and act out each of the scenes.
8. Email your script and/or a video of your family acting out your three-act opera to: juniorcurator@museumofglass.org