Books for Young Children about the Creative Arts

Compiled by Sandi Collins

About Painters and Other Artists


Sandi Collins is associate production coordinator for Young Children.


Marianthe’s Story: Painted Words and Marianthe’s Story: Spoken Memories. Aliki. 1998. Greenwillow. Two stories based on the author/illustrator’s childhood experiences. Although Mari starts school knowing no one and unable to speak or understand the language, she expresses herself and her feelings through art. Ages 4–8.


Pictures for Miss Josie. S. Belton. Illus., B. Andrews. The story of Josephine Carroll Smith (Miss Josie) and a young artist who became one of her friends. Ages 4–8.


Music


**Max Found Two Sticks.** B. Pinkney. 1997. Aladdin. Max doesn’t feel like talking, but he responds to questions by drumming on various objects, including a bucket, hat boxes, and garbage cans, echoing the city sounds around him. Ages 4–8.


**The Jazz Fly** (with CD). M. Gollub. Illus., K. Hanke. 2000. Tortuga. While seeking directions to town, a fly picks up the rhythm of the answers he gets from a frog, a hog, a donkey, and a dog and then uses the sounds to jazz up his band’s music. Ages 4–8.


Sculpture/Architecture


**Gugu’s House.** C. Stock. 2001. Clarion. Ages 5–8. In Zimbabwe, Kukamba visits her grandmother, Gugu, who paints and creates clay sculptures. When the art pieces are destroyed by long-awaited rains, Gugu shows her granddaughter the beauty that nature has created.


**Dance**


**Drama/Theater**


**The Year I Didn’t Go To School.** G. Potter. 2002. Atheneum. The author tells of touring Italy, at the age of seven, with her family’s tiny theater company. Ages 4–8

**Textiles**

**Luka’s Quilt.** G. Guback. 1994. Greenwillow. Grandma Tutu is hurt when Luka is disappointed with the traditional Hawaiian quilt that Tutu made for her. All ends well though. Ages 4–8.


**Photography**


**Poetry**


**Pottery**


**Museums**


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