

itty-bitty art

AMON
CARTER
MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN
ART

Listen Up!

Shhhh, do you hear that? While artworks are certainly beautiful to look at with our eyes, they can also be fun to explore with our ears. The following books and activities are sure to hook the attention of you and your baby as you listen, play, and learn at home with your favorite noisy Carter artworks.

Hear, Hear!

From quieting down while hearing the calming coos of a caretaker, to babbling happily in their crib, infants spend the first months and years of life developing their listening and speech skills so that they can communicate with their world. While all children are unique, here are a few [milestones](#) you can follow from Stanford Children's Health.

Lend Me Your Ears

Sound is everywhere! Using a sing-song voice to hold your infant's attention, listening to the sounds of your home, or making fun noises while playing with toys and reading books are all simple ways to [integrate sound](#) into your baby's day. Check out the [Virtual Speech Center](#) for more tips and tricks!

Say What?

The National Association of the Deaf provides a treasure trove of resources for learning [American Sign Language](#) (ASL) as a family. Whether you or your children are hearing, deaf, or hard of hearing, ASL can be a helpful tool for communicating over a lifetime!

Rhyme Time!

Literacy tip: Rhyming or repetitive refrains in books and songs help children decode language and play with the sounds they hear.

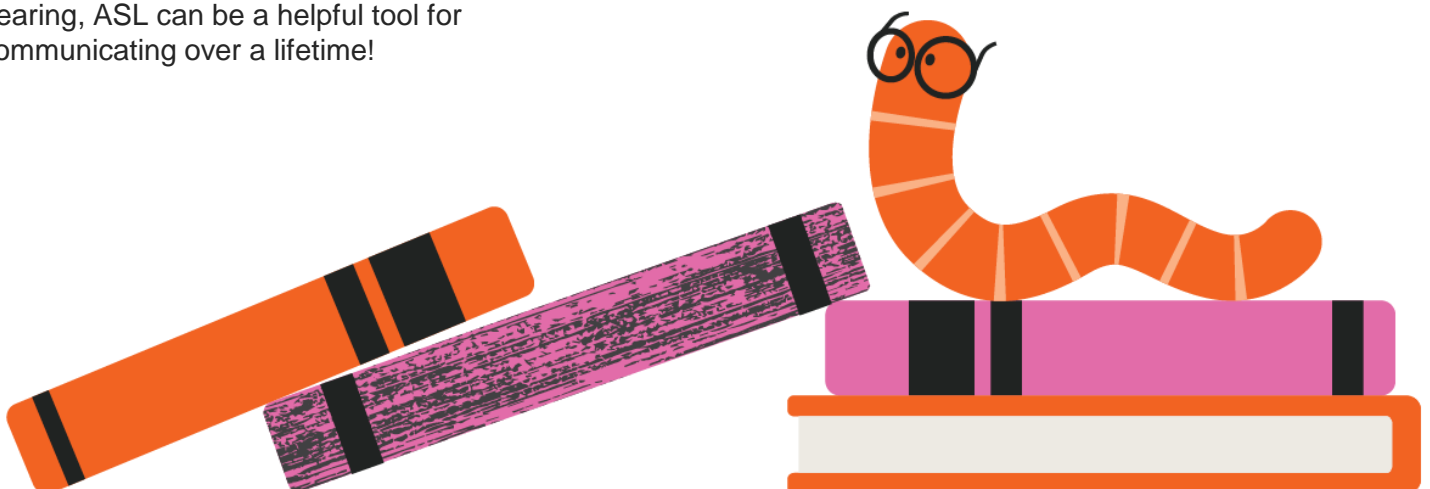
[One, Two, Buckle My Shoe](#) by Jane Cabrera

[Little Elephants / Elefantitos](#) by Susie Jaramillo

[Hey Diddle Diddle!](#) by Annie Kubler and Sarah Dellow

The Fort Worth Public Library is building a community of learners, dreamers, and doers with the help of great collaborators across the City of Fort Worth. Visit their website, fortworthlibrary.org, and explore their uniquely creative and diverse programming for all ages on their YouTube channel at [YouTube.com/fwlibrary](https://www.youtube.com/fwlibrary).

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Listening to the Artwork

You might think that paintings, photographs, and sculptures are silent objects. But, if you listen closely (and use a little imagination), we think you'll find these Carter artworks to be noisier than you expected! Included in this packet you'll find images of prints from the Carter's collection, a playlist full of inspirational music, and materials for making your own noisy playthings.

listening

Listen to the ["Listen Up!" playlist](#) while you and your baby play, relax, or eat together. Hum, dance, clap your hands, or try to imitate the sounds. Experiment with the volume, alternating between loud, medium, and soft.

Read artworks aloud to your infant, matching each image with a track on the playlist or your own sound effects. For more tips on reading with infants, check out the [Baby Book Guide](#)!

Make your own artwork soundtrack! Think about the sounds you would hear if the artwork came to life, songs the artwork reminds you of, or music that matches the artwork.

Reflect as you listen. How does your infant react to the sounds they are hearing? Are they peaceful, fussy, or full of giggles? How are those feelings reflected in their body language?

playing

Use the instruments in your kit, or your own household items, to create some artful sounds! Whether shakers with rice and beads, crinkly paper, popping bubble wrap, or clattering wooden spoons, there are plenty of baby-safe ways to respond to art with sound.

Infants 1 year or older might enjoy a noisy matching game. Play a track from your playlist and prompt your baby to grab, point to, slap, or otherwise choose the artwork they think they are hearing. Now, play the game in reverse by choosing an artwork and matching it with a song or noise from your playlist.

Have an artwork dance party! Put on some music or some fun sound effects and help your infant move their body in response. Bend their legs, stretch their arms, and blow raspberries on their tummies for some silly, noisy exercise.

Ready for more?

Find plenty of Carter artworks to read [online](#) or in the [museum](#)!





Mort Baranoff (1923–1978)

Marsh Music, 1967

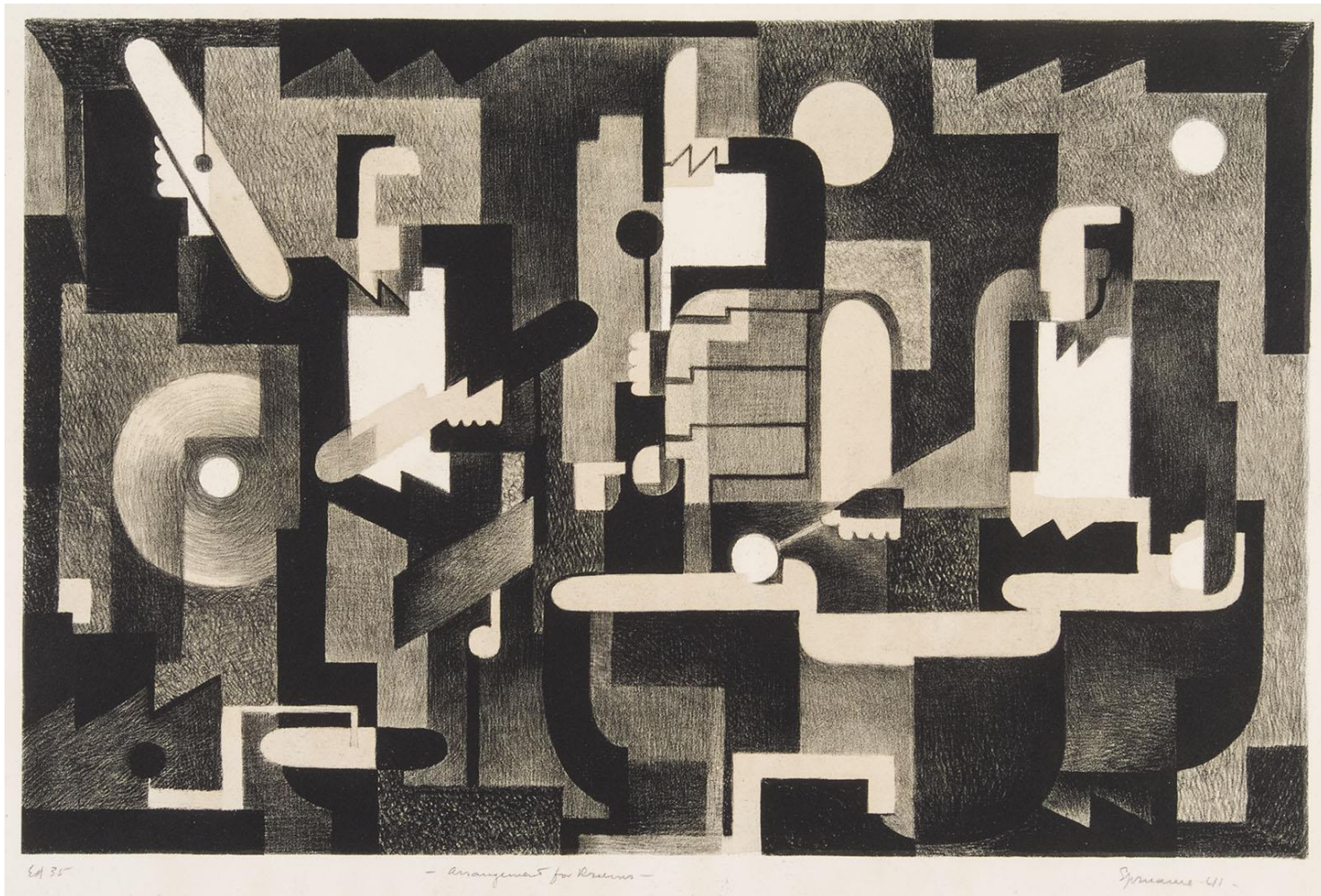
Etching

Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

Gift of Ruth Carter Stevenson

2008.21.6

© Dr. Timy Baranoff



Benton Murdoch Spruance (1904–1967)

Arrangement for Drums, 1941

Lithograph

Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

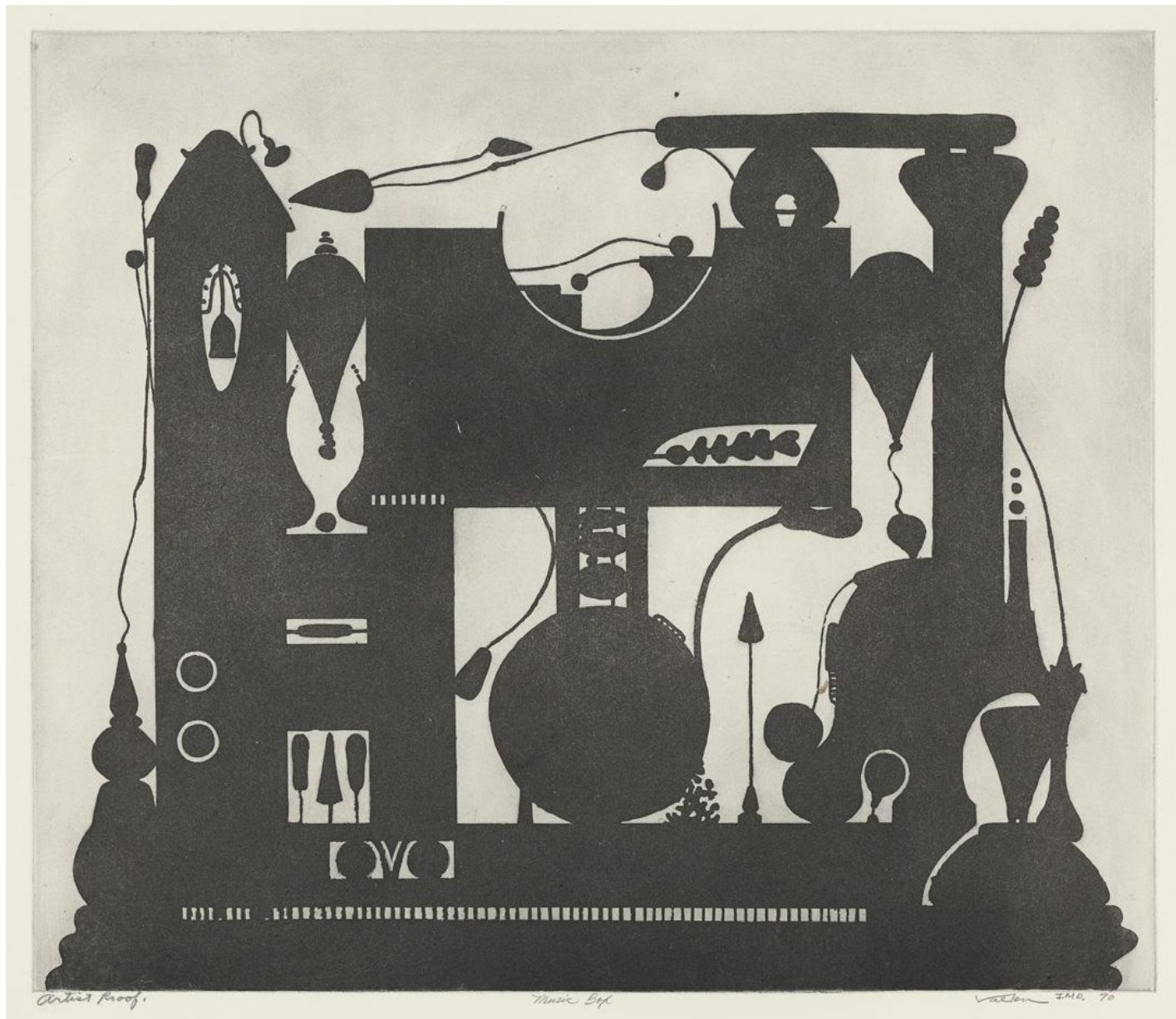
1987.89

© Carol M. Spruance



Mary Cassatt (1844–1926)
Interior of a Tramway Passing a Bridge, ca. 1891
Drypoint and aquatint

Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas
1983.30



Valton Tyler (1944–2017)

Music Box, 1970

Aquatint etching

12 3/8 x 10 3/8 in.

Amon Carter Museum of American Art, Fort Worth, Texas

Gift of David H. Gibson

2015.33

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