

# El Anatsui



**El Anatsui** is an artist from Ghana who lives and works in Nigeria. He is known for creating art out of found materials like wood, clay, paper, and bottle tops.

El Anatsui, *Another Place*, 2014. Found aluminum and copper wire, 283.2 x 284.5 cm. Museum purchase, Fowler McCormick, Class of 1921, Fund and Sarah Lee Elson, Class of 1984, Fund for the International Artist-in-Residence Program at the Princeton University Art Museum (2015-6689)

## ***At First Glance***

What colors do you see?

Does the artwork lie flat against the wall?

What shapes do you see?

Does it look stiff or flexible?

## ***Look Closely***

What materials do you see?

Notice the different areas of the sculpture.

How are the pieces connected to one another?

What makes them look different?

Do you see any words or symbols?

This artwork is made from bottle tops that have been flattened, sorted into colors, and then stitched together with copper wire. El Anatsui arranged the colors to create shapes and patterns.



### ***Make Connections***

He called this piece *Another Place*.

Does knowing the title change what you see when you look at the work?

Have you ever seen pictures of the earth that were taken from the sky?

Does *Another Place* remind you of those pictures?

If you were the artist, what would you call this sculpture?

### ***Use Your Imagination***

Have you ever thought about making a work of art out of recycled materials?

What materials would you use? (think about colors, shapes, sizes, and textures)

Would your artwork be something that could hang on a wall, or would it be something that would sit on a table or the floor?

Would you want the labels on the recycled materials to show, or would you hide them?