

Nick Cave

Nick Cave is an artist who is best known for the large, bright, sculptural costumes he creates using everyday objects. He calls these wearable works of art “soundsuits.”



Nick Cave, (American, born 1959), *Soundsuit*, 2017. Mixed media, including buttons, wire, bugle beads, metal, and mannequin. Private collection. © Nick Cave. Photo by James Prinz Photography. Courtesy of the artist and Jack Shainman Gallery, New York

Look Closely

Being careful not to get too close, spend some time looking at this work of art.

What is it made of?

Does it include any objects that you recognize?

What colors do you see?

Use Your Imagination

Nick Cave's soundsuits are intended both to be displayed as sculptures and to be worn and danced in. Sometimes they are performed in public spaces, such as at a park or in a parade; sometimes the performances are videotaped and viewed on a screen.

How do you think this suit looks when it is in motion?

How do you think it sounds?

How would it feel to wear this soundsuit?

Personal Connections

Have you ever worn a costume?

How did it make you feel?

Does this soundsuit remind you of anything?
