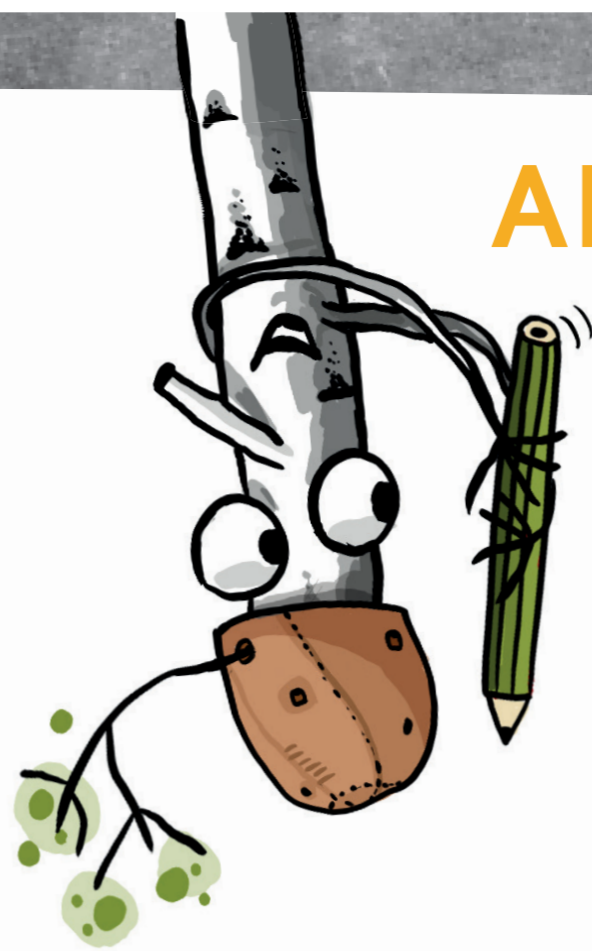


Can you see what Alexandra used in her piece "Blondie, begging"? Why do you think this piece has such a mysterious title?

Imagine you could make such a figure yourself out of all kinds of materials lying around your home or neighborhood. What would it look like? What would it be like, what would it do and how would it behave?

TRY TO DRAW THE CHARACTER YOU HAVE JUST INVENTED! MAYBE YOU COULD ACTUALLY CREATE IT AT HOME?



# ALEXANDRA BIRCKEN

READY STEADY SKETCH!

# A - Z

Alexandra Bircken, "Blondie, begging", 2010  
© Alexandra Bircken, Photo: Lothar Scheepf, Cologne

MUSEUM BRANDHORST

Kids' activity poster for the exhibition "Alexandra Bircken: A-Z", July 18, 2021 - January 16, 2022.  
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We sincerely thank the artist Alexandra Bircken for her collaboration on this poster and for her kind permission to use her works.

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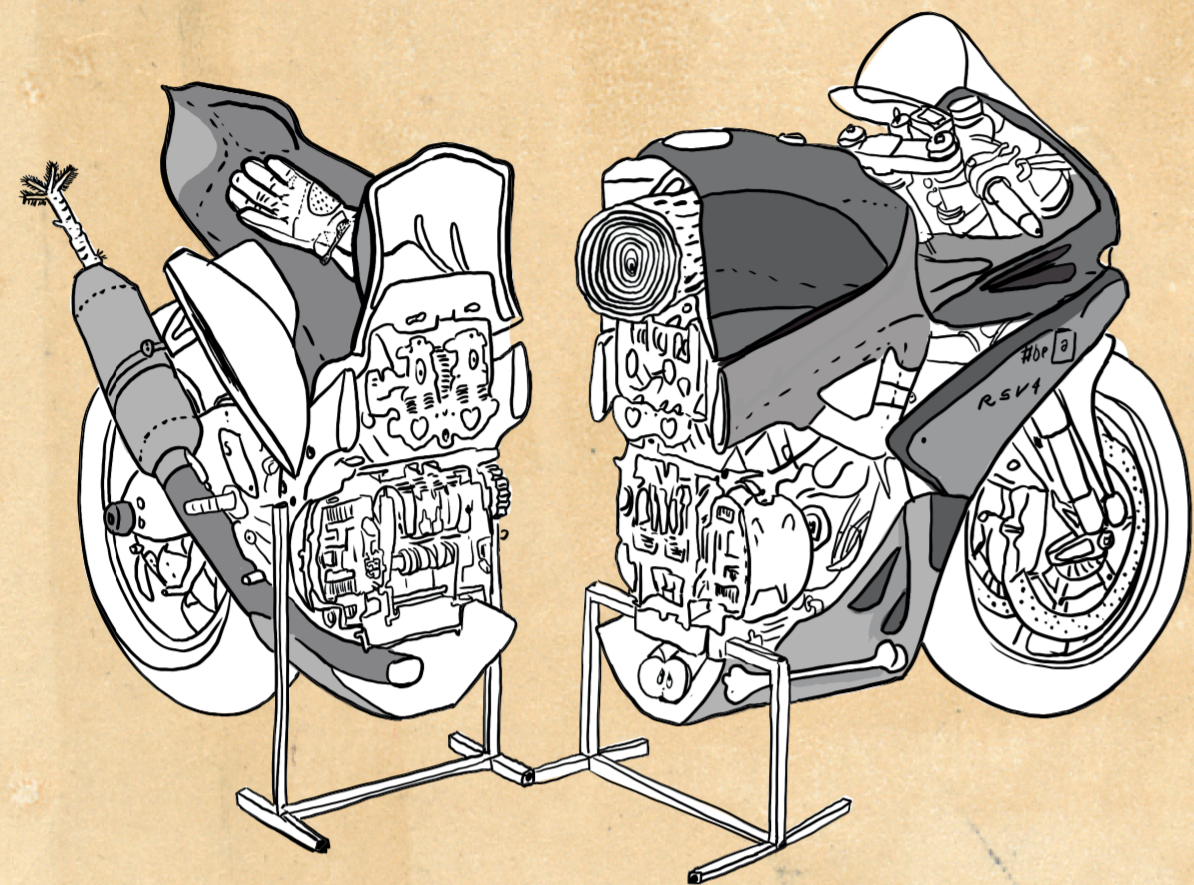
For their great support, and for making this poster possible in order to educate children and young people about the exhibition, we would like to thank PIN, Freunde der Pinakothek der Moderne e.V., Jan Fischer and the Udo and Anette Brandhorst Foundation, which is consistently committed to promoting creative education in the museum.

Art education and children's program: We offer a wide-ranging education program for children and young people. For current dates, workshops and offers: [www.museum-brandhorst.de/kalender](http://www.museum-brandhorst.de/kalender)

The artist ALEXANDRA BIRCKEN makes sculptures from a wide variety of materials that she encounters in everyday life. Sculptures are three-dimensional artworks. The materials and forms she uses are as numerous and varied as the letters of the alphabet. Just as the letters can be combined to make different words, new sculptures are constantly being created from Alexandra's pool of materials! Recently, a small branch detached itself from an artwork and came to life. His name is Birckie. He's now running riot in the museum. Follow him today on his discovery tour through Alexandra's exhibition "A-Z"! Let's start in the room with the big black net.

ONE MORNING I HAD TO GO TO THE DOCTOR. BUT WOULD YOU BELIEVE IT! IT WASN'T ME WHO NEEDED HELP, BUT "THE DOCTOR". THE REMNANT OF A CHRISTMAS TREE NOW SERVES AS A REPLACEMENT FOR HIS LEG.

LOOK CLOSELY AT THE WORK "CAGEY". IT WILL HELP YOU TO SOLVE THE PUZZLE! TRY TO GUESS THE WORDS FOR OBJECTS THAT CAN BE FOUND IN MANY OF ALEXANDRA'S WORKS. I LOVE PUZZLES, ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY FEATURE CHARACTERS LIKE ME!



**SPOT THE DIFFERENCES** Six foreign objects have crept into the interior of the motorcycle "RSV 4". Can you spot them? You will also find them in other artworks by Alexandra.

The objects that make up the figure were found by Alexandra by chance, or they belonged to someone close to her. One example is the smock: parts of it were worn by her daughter when she was in hospital. Can you discover materials that already appeared in "RSV 4"? What are they used for in the "The Doctor"? Can you draw it with all its body parts and clothing?

**DRAWING**

Here is some space to do so!

**BODY LANGUAGE**

Do you recognize this gesture? Who do you think is portrayed here? What position does she hold? A clue: We call her "Angie", and she makes a lot of important decisions. In this pose she remains concentrated and calm, even when under pressure.

Birckie found some gestures online. Beside each drawing, write down what they mean. Then make gestures to each other and guess their meaning.



A GESTURE IS A SPONTANEOUS OR DELIBERATE MOVEMENT OF THE BODY. IT ACCOMPANIES OR REPLACES THE SPOKEN WORD AND CAN ALSO BE A STATEMENT IN ITSELF. IT EXPRESSES A CERTAIN INNER ATTITUDE.

Think about gestures you encounter on a daily basis.



Birckie likes to experiment in the kitchen. This is his favorite recipe for fake blood.

**HOW TO MAKE FAKE BLOOD**

- You will need:**
- 1 liter beetroot or cherry juice
  - 3 tablespoons cornstarch
  - a pot
  - whisk or other mixing utensil
  - food coloring, orange juice or soy sauce (according to taste)

Add the juice – beetroot or cherry – to the starch in a sufficiently large pot, and stir them well until the starch is no longer lumpy.

Bring the mixture to the boil – all the while stirring vigorously!

Is the color still not right? Then add some food coloring, orange juice or soy sauce. Allow the vegetable blood to cool.

IF YOU FIND THE BLOOD TOO THIN, JUST ADD CORNSTARCH TO THE COOLED MIXTURE AND HEAT IT UP AGAIN.



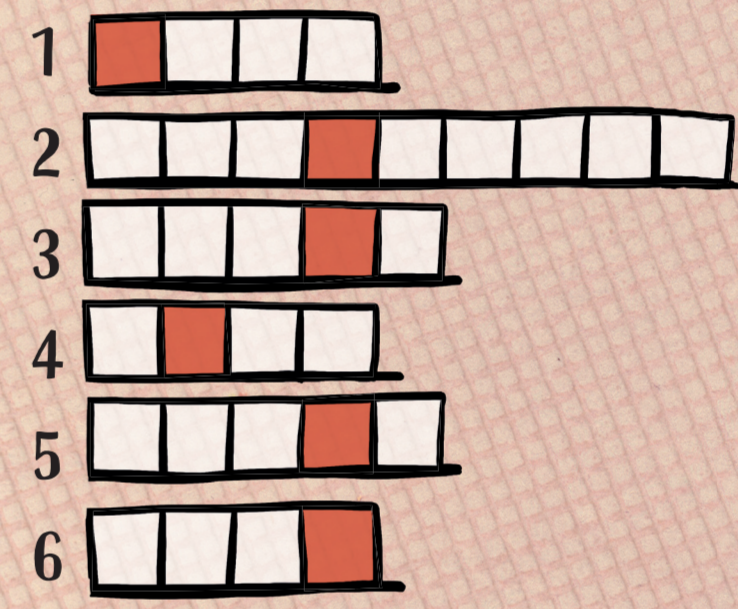
THIS PICTURE PUZZLE TELLS YOU, FIRST, WHAT ANIMALS THE BONES IN THE VENT ARE FROM, AND SECOND, WHAT BODY PART IT IS.



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**WORD SEARCH**

1. \_\_\_\_\_ protects living beings, especially humans and animals, from environmental influences such as rain, sun and wind. It is the body's greatest protection!
2. Someone who designs buildings. This profession has existed for thousands of years.
3. It is possible to \_\_\_\_\_ strands of hair together to form a plait.
4. Birds build a \_\_\_\_\_ in which to hatch their chicks.
5. A hard, protective outer layer, usually created by an animal that lives in the sea.
6. A tree trunk is composed of \_\_\_\_\_ – just like Birckie's body!



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The letters highlighted in red make up a word when put together. What is the connection to the smock worn by "The Doctor"?

**PICTURE PUZZLE**