

Tweed

m u s e u m o f a r t

50

STORIES
IN ART

activity 5

university of minnesota duluth
www.d.umn.edu/tma/

5.

PABLO RUIZ PICASSO
(Spanish)

Le Chef-d'oeuvre inconnu
(*The Unknown Masterpiece*)

1927-31

thirteen etchings on Van Gelder wove paper,
average plate size 7 7/8" x 11"

Tweed Museum of Art, University of Minnesota
Duluth

Purchased with funds gifted by John T. Brickson
and Alice B. O'Connor

This series of prints illustrate a short story called the Unknown Masterpiece, it was written a long time ago by a French writer named Honore d' Balzac.

The story is about a famous painter who was working for years and years on a painting in secret. When others finally saw the painting, they saw a mixture of lines and layers of paint that they didn't quite understand.



Pablo Picasso was one of the greatest artists of our time. He was born in Spain. His father was an artist and encouraged Picasso to draw and paint. Picasso used his imagination to try new and different things throughout his entire life. He died when he was ninety-two, after he had created thousands of works of art that are in museums all over the world.

Picasso used lines only to illustrate Balzac's story. Make two drawings of your own Unknown Masterpiece. Use a black pencil for one drawing and white colored pencil in the other drawing. See how many ways you can use lines to make your masterpiece visually interesting.

