CUT, CARVE, & SCULPT: Your Own Triad
Have you noticed the change in artworks at Westfield UTC mall? This year Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (MCASD) is excited to present the work of American sculptor Beverly Pepper and has designed playful artmaking activities for you to make at home.

Start exploring.

About the Artist
Beverly Pepper (1922–2020) was an American artist known for her monumental sculptures, land art, and site-specific installations. She remained independent from any particular art movement and experimental in her practice.

She began her artistic career at the age of sixteen, not much older than you. She studied painting, design, and photography in New York and Paris and traveled extensively.

After a trip to Angkor Wat, Cambodia, in 1960, she was inspired by the temple ruins surviving beneath the jungle growth. Initially, she made sculptures by carving wood, but rather than traditional chiseling tools, she used power tools. Pepper created several distinctive triad compositions, from slender tall figures to monolithic blocks that recall ancient Greek and Egyptian traditions of representing three gods as one entity. Later in her life, Pepper developed sculptures using highly polished stainless steel with painted interiors. From the very beginning of her career, she created works to be displayed outdoors--as they are here at the mall.

Explore
Before you head home, take a closer look at Zeus Triad (1997-99).
• What does this sculpture remind you of?
• How was it made? What do you notice about the forms?
• How does the title complement the composition or not?

Are you now ready to create your own sculptures, inspired by Beverly Pepper’s Zeus Triad? Pepper created these stand-alone columns by carving a malleable material such as wax or clay and then cast it in bronze.

Fun Fact
Casting is a process in which a liquid material is usually poured into a mold of the desired shape, and then allowed to solidify. The solidified part is known as a casting, taken out of or broken out of the mold to complete the process, just like making soap bars.

SHOP YOUR HEART OUT
OCTOBER 23 –NOVEMBER 1, 2020
It pays to be kind. Westfield is hosting a nationwide campaign for customers to shop at our centers while simultaneously supporting local and national non-profit organizations. The Museum of Contemporary Art is one of the local beneficiaries. Help bring art to more people today.
INSTRUCTIONS
The malleable material is soft-bar laundry soap. It is soft and easy to cut and carve. Take the bar of soap and cut it into three columns (or rectangular prisms). Then carve to transform your soap bars into abstract compositions similar to one another—like a triad.

1. Use the soap bar diagram and silhouette drawings (below) of Pepper’s Zeus Triad to sketch out the carvings you would make into your soap bars.
2. Use the tools provided or any other carving tools you might have at home: wire, fishing line, butter knives, baking spatulas, or potato peelers make great tools.
3. Carve one at a time or all three little by little. As you carve, think about how each column will complement each other to form your triad.

Tips
• Have a small glass of warm water nearby.
• Have paper towels nearby to help clean up excess water or wipe your hands.
• Use a small amount of warm water on your fingertips to help mold and sculpt the soap.
• To add two pieces together, score (scratch) each side, lightly wet them with your fingertips, and press together. You will need to let the conjoined parts dry solid before continuing to work with them.

Be creative!

Resources
www.mcasd.org/blog/artlab-take-home-edition-back
https://landmarks.utexas.edu/artwork/harmonious-triad
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Casting