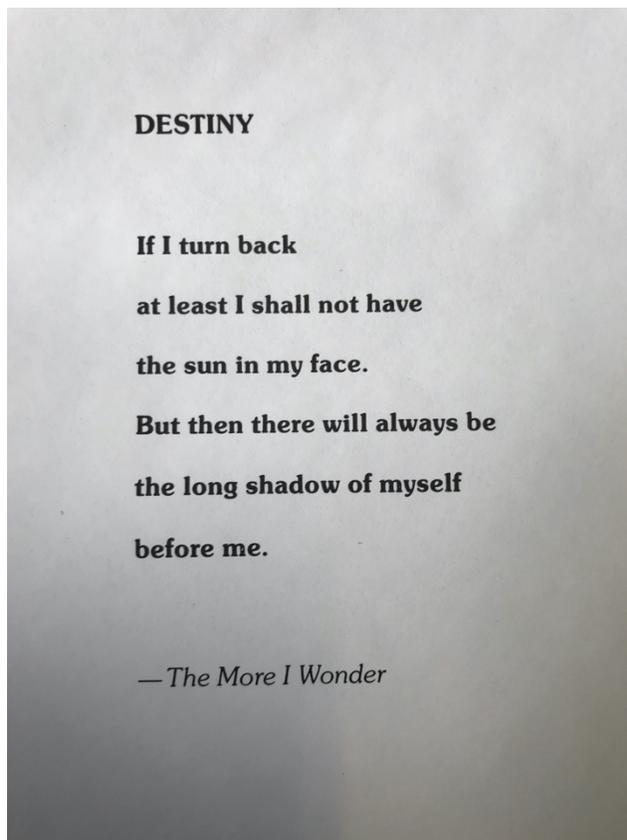


Kay Sage and Surrealism

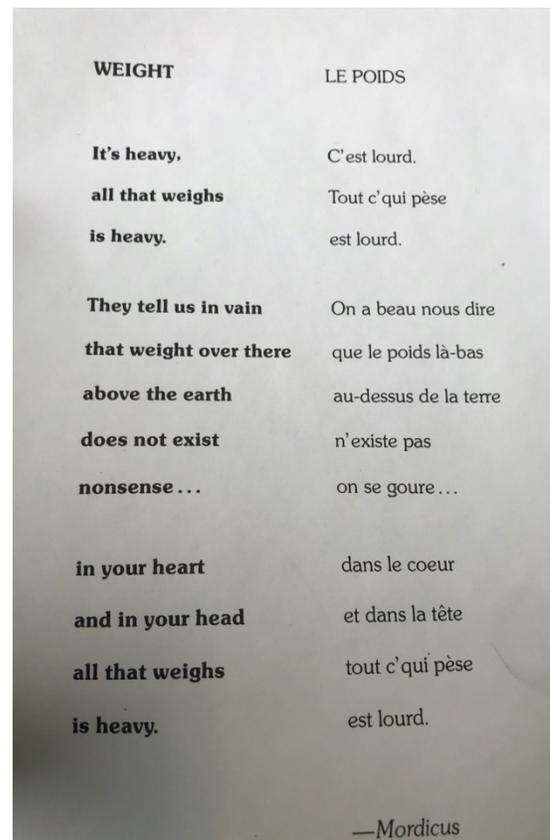
Art & Poetry

Kay Sage was not just a painter; she also wrote poetry. Her poetry was much like her artwork, not following the logical and normal. The techniques that the Surrealist poets used created unusual, unfiltered poems. They were different from other types of poetry.

These poetry activities will introduce children to language and imagination. The process allows students to express themselves in a way different from normal speech. It also helps them to use imaginative language and thoughtful wording to convey their ideas.



Kay Sage, 'Destiny', *The More I Wonder*, 1957



Kay Sage, 'Weight', *Mordicus*, 1962

Project I: Cut-up Technique

Duration: 15 minutes

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Newspaper (optional)

Instructions:

1. Write out 30 words that you would like in your poem. Remember they don't have to rhyme. You can have a certain theme or topic or just pick words at random. You can also use a newspaper article instead!
2. Cut out each of the words.
3. Rearrange them into different lines of your poem. You don't have to use every word. When you're done, paste them onto paper as your finished poem.
4. Send your masterpiece to heather@mattmuseum.org. We might even share it on social media with our followers!

Project 2: Cadavre Exquis Technique

Duration: 15 minutes

Materials:

- Pencil
- Paper

Instructions:

1. One person starts off a sentence with one word, then folds the paper to conceal the word and hands it to the next person.
2. The next person adds the next word in the sentence without knowing what the person before wrote.
3. Follow the pattern “article, adjective, noun, verb, adjective, noun” so you can come up with some really interesting sentences.

Some examples:

“A brave elephant gets little school.”

“A fluffy octopus paints crunchy llamas.”

“The smelly cottage tips happy cheese knives.”

Can't remember what the parts of speech? Here is a nifty chart:



Chart from www.7esl.com

4. After writing a few sentences, unfold the paper and reveal your Surrealist poem.
5. Send your creations to heather@mattmuseum.org. We might even share it on social media with our followers!

Project 3: Freestyle Poem

Duration: 5-10 minutes

Materials:

- Paper
- Pencil

Instructions:

1. Use your imagination and start writing lines of poetry, but remember that it doesn't have to rhyme or make sense.
2. Just write what you want and do not go back to edit your poem. This is how a lot of Surrealist poets worked.
3. Send your poems to heather@mattmuseum.org. We might even share it on social media with our followers!