

Create

In his artwork *De Forest* creates new worlds full of imaginary creatures, emphasizing the role of the artist as storyteller and magician. Viewers are invited to travel to magical places where the laws of nature don't apply.

What is going on in this painting?

What do you see in the artwork that makes you say that?

In the space below write your own story about the dogs in this painting.

Family Guide

ROY DE FOREST

(American 1930–2007)



Roy De Forest, *Country Dog Gentlemen*, 1972; polymer on canvas, 66.3/4 in. x 97 in. (169.55 cm x 246.38 cm); Collection SFMOMA, gift of the Hamilton-Wells Collection, © Estate of Roy De Forest/Licensed by WAGA, New York



SFMOMA

Country Dog Gentlemen, 1972
Polymer on canvas
Collection SFMOMA, gift of the
Hamilton-Wells Collection

Look

Look carefully at this painting for a moment.



“People often ask me about my work The truth is, my paintings are pretty simple. . . . I don't have any real desire to tell people what they should see or feel.”

Roy De Forest, *Country Dog Gentlemen*, 1972

Fun Fact!

De Forest once said that in his work he was “trying to create a world in which the principal actors [are] dogs . . . if you look closely you might be able to identify them as people you might know.”

If you were going to make a painting using animals to represent people you know, which animals would you choose?

Why would you choose those animals?

List or draw a few examples in the space below.



Explore

De Forest believed that the most valuable tools we have are our eyes, our thoughts, and our feelings.

Look at this painting for thirty seconds, then turn around and list the top five things that you remember about it.



1.

2.

3.

4.

5.