



About Isamu Noguchi

Isamu Noguchi was born in California in 1904. His mother was American, and his father was Japanese. When he was two years old his mother took him to Japan, where they lived for many years.

When he was thirteen years old, Noguchi moved to the United States. After he finished high school, Noguchi thought that he would be a doctor. But he loved making art, so he decided to study sculpture instead. He began to learn from many artists, and traveled to France to learn about stone carving from the famous sculptor Constantin Brancusi.

Noguchi loved traveling, and learned from people and cultures all over the world. In China he studied ink painting. In Japan he learned how to sculpt with clay. In Mexico he made a mural that you can still see in a marketplace in Mexico City. He traveled all around Europe and Asia to think about art and what people did to relax or have fun when they were not working. In Italy he learned to work with heavy marble stone.

Isamu Noguchi loved working with other people to create new things. One of his friends was the dancer Martha Graham; Noguchi designed sets and props for her dances. Another friend, Edison Price, helped him figure out how to use machines to cut and fold enormous pieces of metal. Noguchi worked with architects to design playgrounds, with a traditional Japanese lantern-maker to create Akari lamps, and with furniture designers to produce tables and chairs.

Isamu Noguchi wanted to share his sculptures with other people. He worked with his friend Shoji Sadao to create a museum in New York City. This is The Noguchi Museum, where anyone can come see the art of Isamu Noguchi. Noguchi died a few years after the museum opened, but we remember him by visiting the museum and looking at his art.

