Make your own sporty sculptures

Name: Olaf Falafel

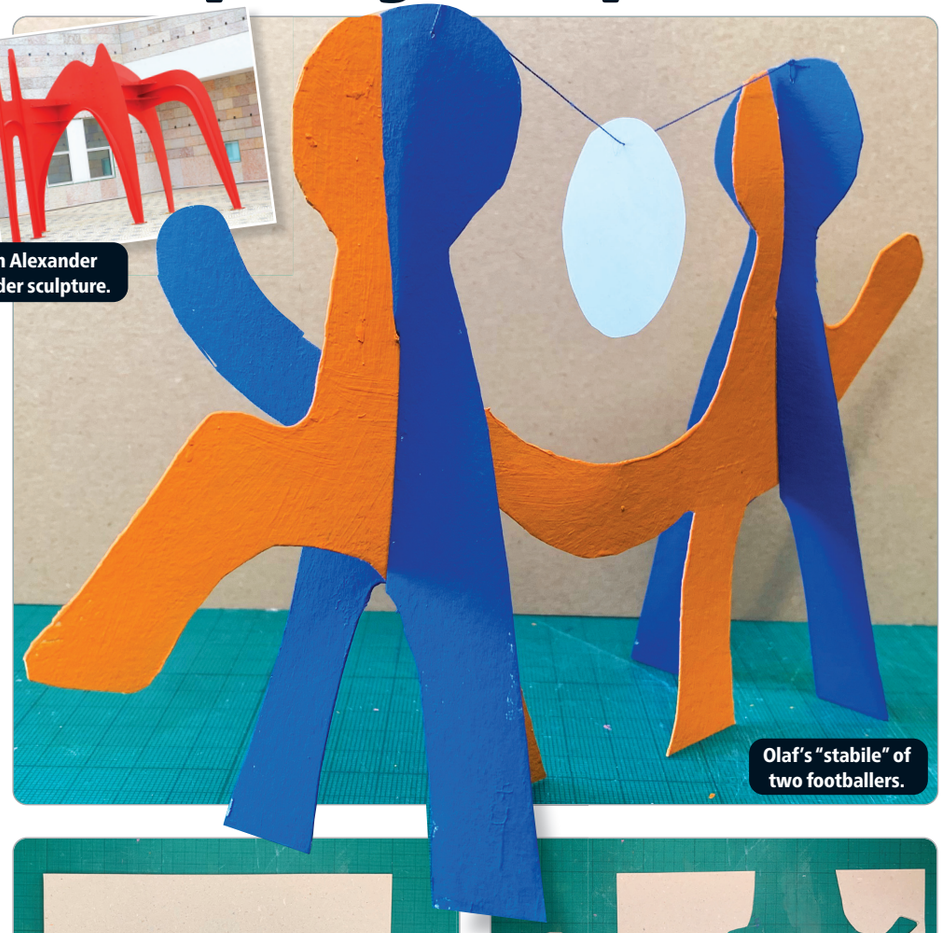
What you need

- A sheet of thick card
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Paint
- Paintbrushes
- A sheet of white paper
- Needle and thread

An Alexander Calder sculpture.

Hello, my name's Olaf Falafel. I'm a dad and a stand-up comedian and I'm also the author and illustrator of the *Trixie Pickle Art Avenger* books. Every month I show you how to create art based on the works of famous artists. Plus I tell you a really bad joke like this one: What's black and white and says "ooh"? A cow with no lips!

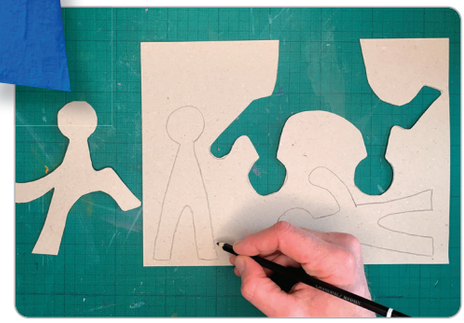
As I'm a big football fan and it's almost the end of the season, I thought I'd make a sporty artwork based on someone who made sculptures that could move. Alexander Calder was famous for making sculptures and hanging mobiles. His mobiles were like larger, abstract versions of the kind that spin over a baby's cot. "Abstract" means art that doesn't show things that are recognisable but portrays them through shapes, colours and marks. He also made what he called "stabiles". These were a cross between a statue and a mobile. My stabile is going to be an abstract representation of two footballers but you can base yours on any sport you like.



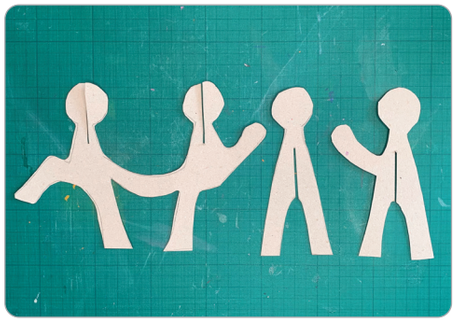
Olaf's "stabile" of two footballers.

1 Gather all your equipment together. Card, paper, pencil, paints, brushes and scissors. Put your needle and thread aside for later.

2 Take your pencil and on the sheet of card draw two abstract shapes that sort of look like figures, then carefully cut them out.

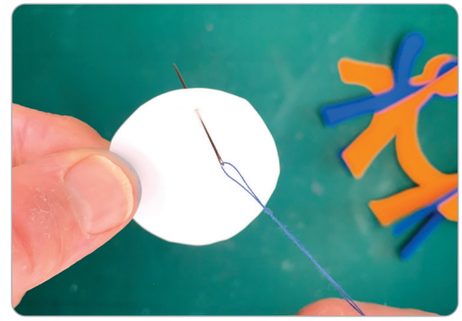


3 Draw two more shapes on the leftover card. Make sure they are the same height as your original figures.



4 Carefully cut out the new shapes and then cut slots in the tops or bottoms of the pieces as shown in the picture above.

5 Paint your shapes in the colours of your favourite teams and leave to dry. When they have dried completely, slot the pieces together.



6 Cut a circle of white paper to make a ball and sew some thread through it. Hang the ball between your figures and your sculpture is done!

OLAF FALAFEL - ALAMY

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