

SONID

DELAVINDY

What relationship might have this folk-art pieces with Sonia Delaunay





# What is her background?

- Where is she from?
- Where did she live?
- What happened when she was 7 years old?



She was born Sonia Illinitchna Stern to a Jewish Ukrainian family. At the age of seven she went to live with her wealthy uncle Henri Terk and his wife, Anna, in St Petersburg, Russia. The Terk's offered her a privileged and cultured upbringing in St Petersburg. Nevertheless, her childhood memories of Ukraine remained with her and she often referred back to the 'pure' colour and bright costumes of the Ukrainian peasant weddings.

# PARIS

- Why did she go to Paris?
- What did she do there?
- Was she happy?



# PARIS

When she arrived in Paris she studied at an Academy. Unhappy with the mode of teaching, which she thought was too critical, she spent less time at the Academy and more time in galleries around Paris. Her own work during this period was strongly influenced by the art she was viewing including the post-impressionist art of Van Gogh, Gauguin, Henri Matisse and Derain.

# Her marriage



In Paris she married Wilhelm Uhde but she did not love him...

Why did she marry him?

How long did it last?

# Her marriage

During her first year in Paris she met, and in 1908 married, a German art gallery owner, Wilhelm Uhde. Little is known about their union, but it is assumed to have been a marriage of convenience to escape the demands of her parents, who disliked her artistic career, for her to return to Russia.

Sonia gained entrance into the art world via exhibitions at Uhde's gallery and benefitted from his connections, and Uhde masked his homosexuality through his public marriage to Sonia.



Was she a religious person?



# Was she a religious person?

For a very long time I hadn't believed in God, but I would seek out nature, and I felt the need to fulfil my desires [...] Now, I would worship pagan gods; it's the only religion I recognise. Praying to beauty — there is a great deal of selflessness in that, and a purely aesthetic element which alone ennobles life and makes it love.

Where does her surname  
“Delaunay” come from?



# Robert Delaunay

Once she divorced from her first husband, she married Robert Delaunay. Her real love. This is what she says about him:

“In Robert Delaunay, I found a poet. A poet who wrote not with words but with colours”

- Sonia got pregnant soon after she got married and gave birth to a son in the year of 1911. His name was Charles.



# How did she start her career as an abstract artist?



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About 1911 she had the idea of making for her new born child a blanket composed of bits of fabric like those she had seen in the houses of Russian peasants. When it was finished, the arrangement of the pieces of material seemed to her to evoke cubist conceptions and she then tried to apply the same process to other objects and paintings.

# What is Orphism?



What can you guess just by seen  
this painting?

# What is Orphism?

- Orphism was an abstract, cubist influenced painting style developed by Robert and Sonia Delaunay around 1912.
- The name comes from the legendary ancient Greek poet and musician Orpheus. It relates to the idea that painting should be like music, which was an important element in the development of abstract art. Robert Delaunay himself used the term simultanism to describe his work.
- Colour, movement and music.



She was a painter, poet, writer, cloth designer and fashion designer









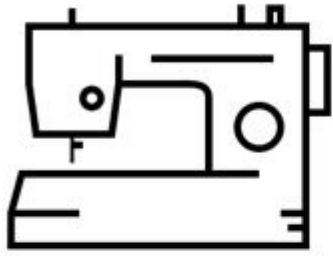


**SONIA  
DELAUNAY**  
was also a very  
famous fashion  
designer. What  
sort of tools do  
you think she  
needed to make  
her designs

Let's see how  
much vocabulary  
you know about







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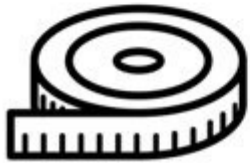
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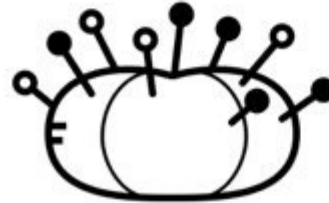
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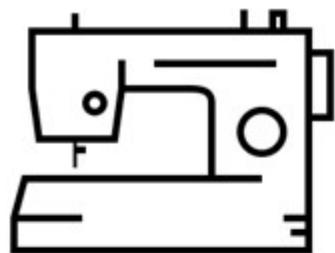
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sewing machine



thread



safety pin



scissors



measuring tape



needle



pin cushion



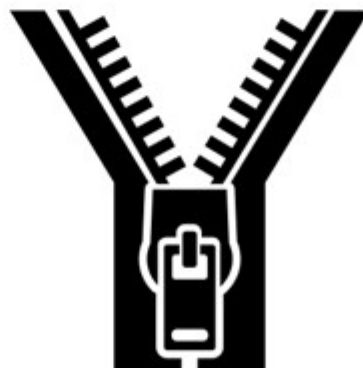
thimble



stitch



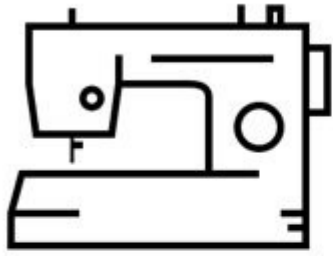
button



zipper

Now, let's see how many words you remember





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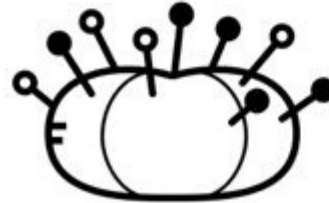
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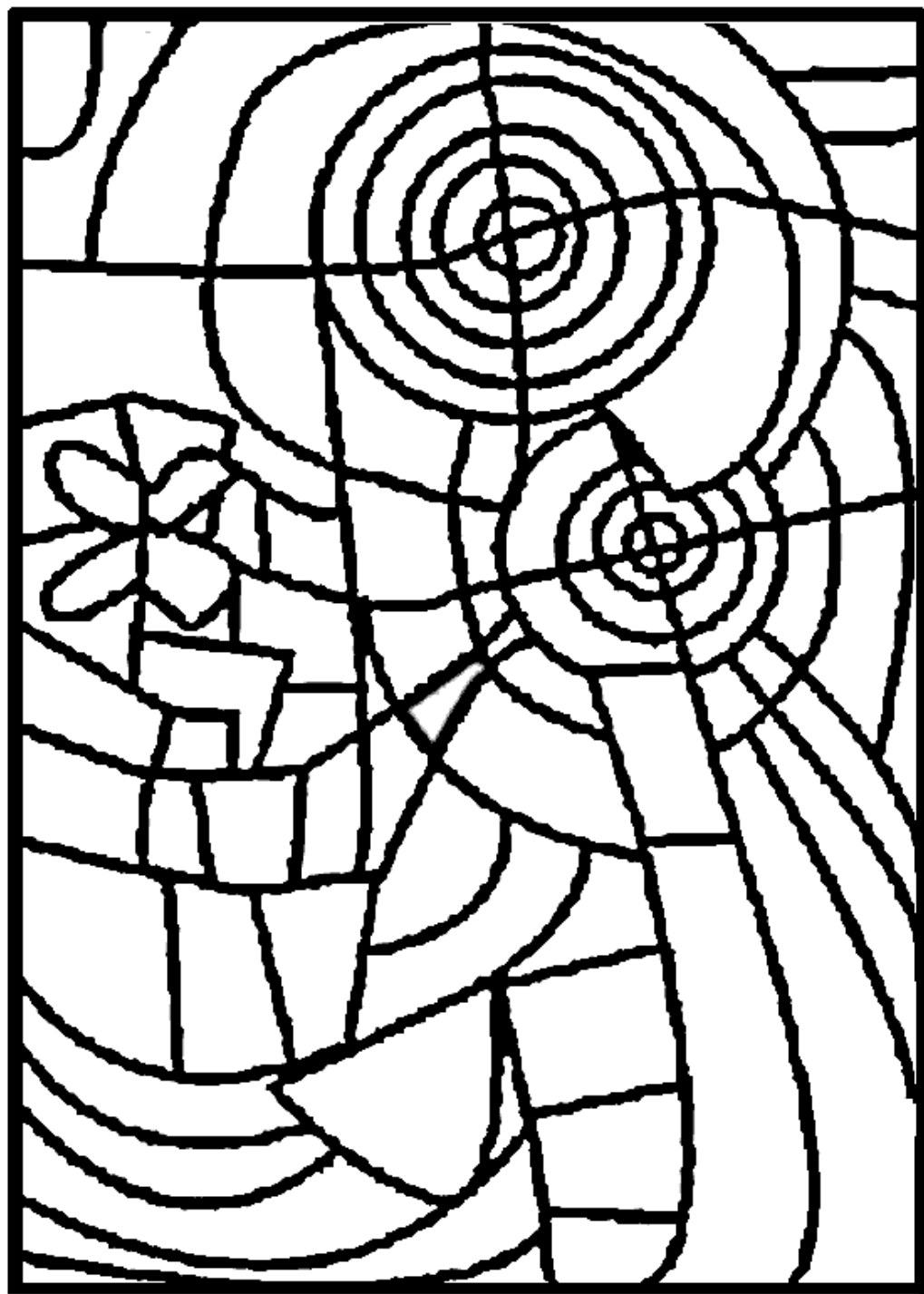
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