

ATTENTION TO DETAIL



MACRO VIEW (MACROSCOPIC) is a close-up of an object that shows the details not usually visible from a normal perspective—a very “zoomed in” view.

MICRO VIEW (MICROSCOPIC) are the tiniest features of a subject that are generally only visible under a microscope—miniscule details

MACROSCOPIC FEATHERS

Sonja Jones, *California Quail* (detail), 2024, scratchboard



LARGER THAN LIFE MICROSCOPIC PARASITES

Thomas Hill, *Bird Parasites: Internal and External*, 2024, mixed media

TAKE A CLOSER LOOK

Artists like those in *Birds in Art* study their subject matter in detail to learn more about delicate and complicated features. Some spend time in nature observing living subjects. Others will study scientific specimens or use photographs to understand the shapes, proportions, and textures of the many birds in the world.

Artist Spencer Tinkham creates macroscopic representations of various birds by carving their wings and feathers with precision. His finished works are a celebration of the colors and textures of avian subjects that are often overlooked by the human eye.

Artist Thomas Hill depicted parasites that live alongside birds and depend on them to stay alive. Most of these specimens are invisible to the naked eye and can only be seen in a microscopic view.

MACROSCOPIC VIEW OF HUMMINGBIRD FEATHERS

Spencer Tinkham, *Love Leads the Way*, 2023, Oil on basswood, holly, brass, and onyx beads



MODEL AWAY!

Use the provided air-dry clay to make your own macro- or micro-sculpture inspired by avian creatures. Explore the *Birds in Art* galleries and find your favorite bird. Then, isolate an eye, feather, beak, foot, or wing to use as inspiration for your three-dimensional creation. Use the two examples of a foot and an eye to guide your sculpting. The air-dry clay can be modeled easily with your hands. If your clay creation doesn't match your vision, simply squish it back together and try again! Let your creativity shine.



1. Try rolling the clay on a table and shaping it with your fingers.



3. Use the stylus or scissors to add texture and details like pupils or plumage.



2. Layer multiple shapes on top of one another to create different textures.



4. Set your sculpture aside to cure and dry overnight



IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS!



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