

Minneapolis Institute of Art

Art Adventure Guide

The Anatomy of a Tour

October 3, 2018

Mia

Out and About, Save the Dates!

October 29 (visit to home studio of Anna Lowenthal Walsh)

December 3 (visit to home studio of Rona Holdt)

**Both are local artists. 11:00 AM start times. Stay tuned!
More information to follow!**

What makes a tour good?



Anatomy of a Tour

Introduction

Body →

Content
Inquiry

Transitions

Conclusion

THEME



Introduction

An introduction should welcome visitors to the museum and establish the theme of the tour. It also provides an opportunity to clearly introduce tour expectations.

What does
welcoming mean
to you?



Welcoming Best Practices

Smile

Eye contact

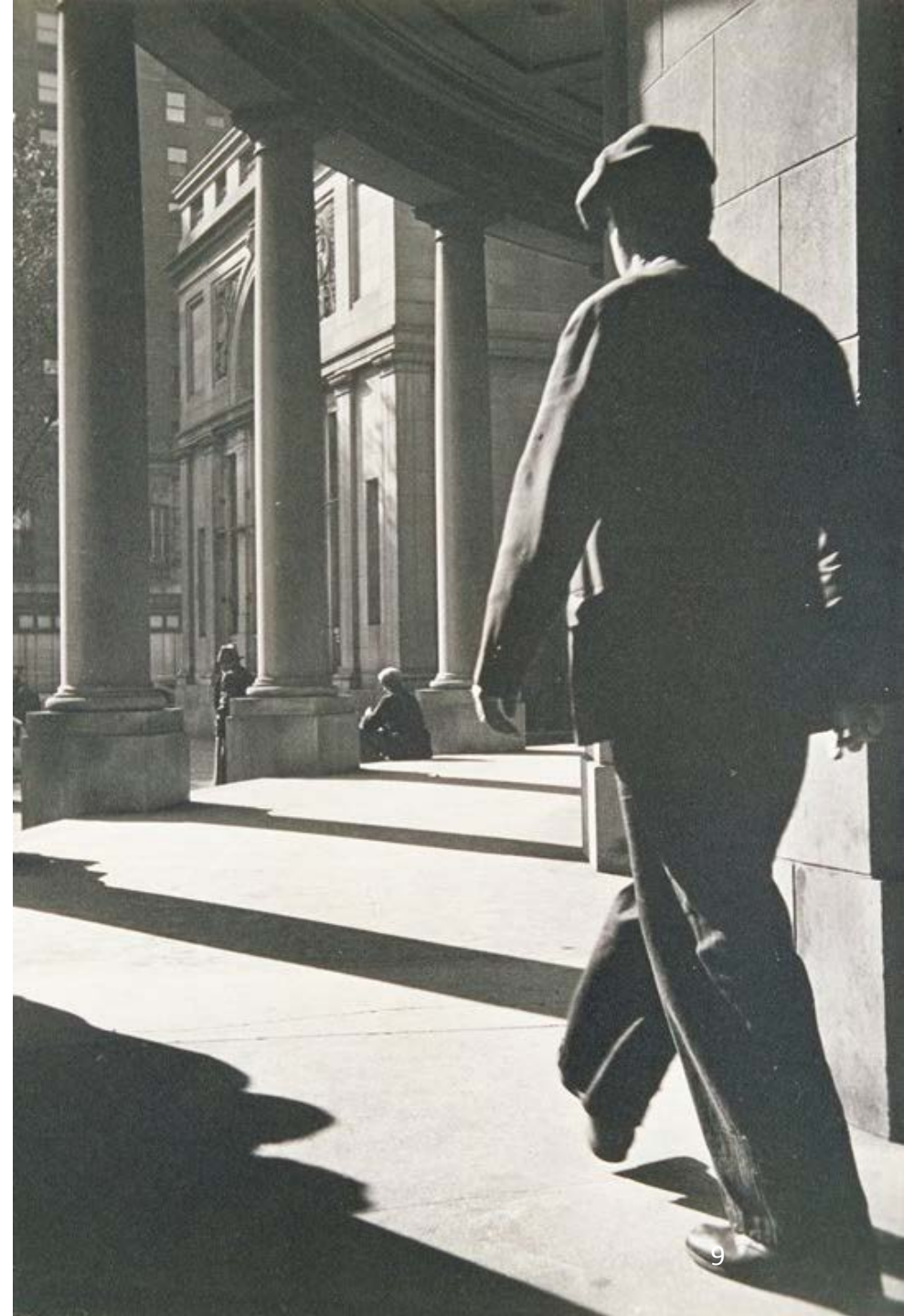
Tone of voice, body language

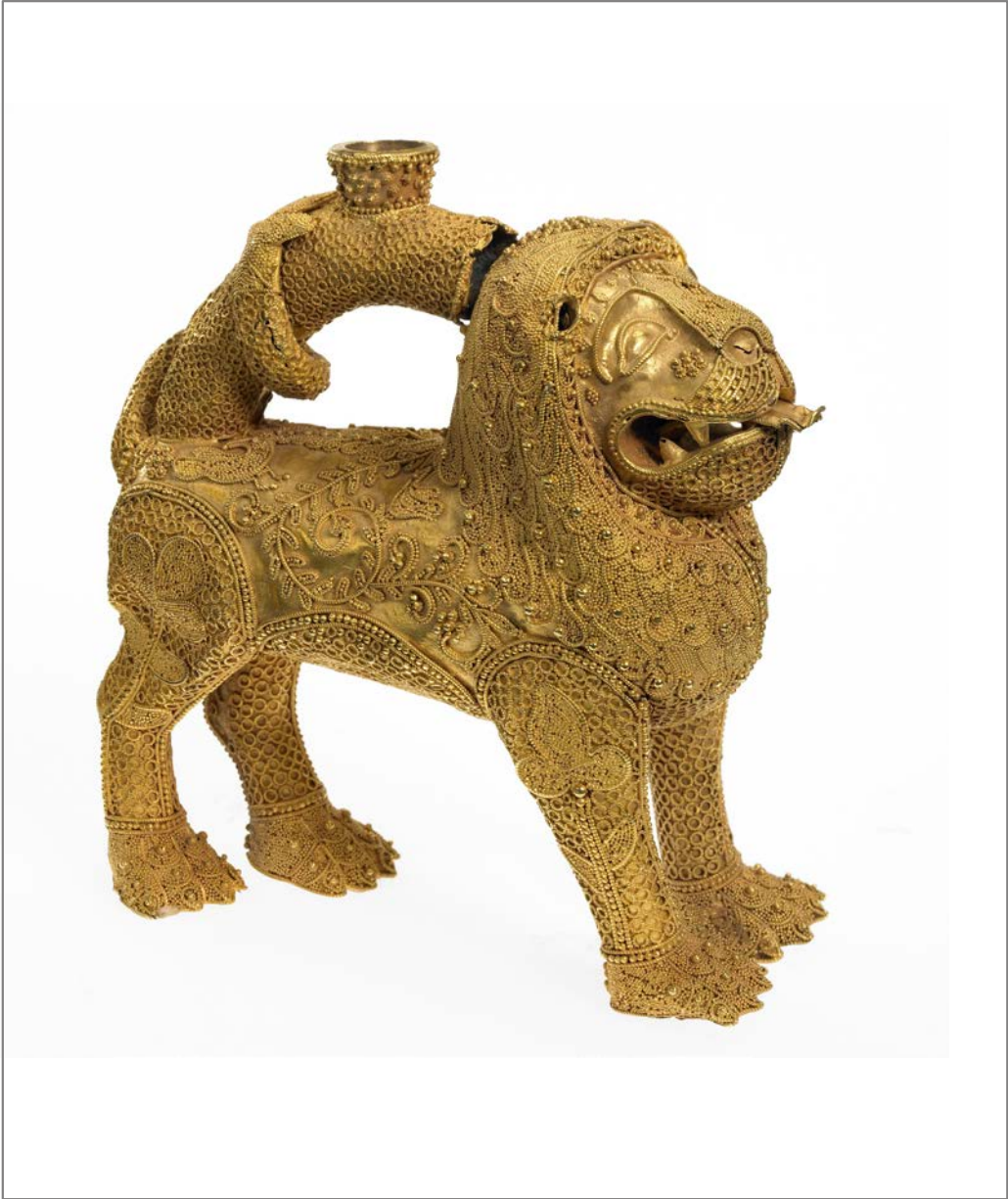
The importance of a name

Transitions

Transitions are 1- to 2-sentence bridges between object stops on tours. They link objects and ideas and reinforce the theme of the tour. Transitions provide an opportunity to clarify, emphasize, and/or embellish ideas.

Why might transitions be important to use on a tour?





Conclusion

A tour conclusion should briefly sum up the purpose and theme of a tour, thank the participants, and invite them back to visit on their own.

The Theme



The Body of a Tour: the balance between content and inquiry



What makes a question good?

When should you introduce content?



The basics of good inquiry:

Questions that allow for multiple interpretations, points of view and opinions

Listen

Paraphrase!

Follow-up: why, what, where

What more/who else ...

Remain neutral/consistent

Guidelines for Facilitating Inquiry

Ask one question at a time

Wait time - wait a few seconds before taking the first response

Build in a variety of questions, and scaffold them, going from easier to more complex questions

Questions don't always have to have a verbal response – group participation

Ask questions that allow all to contribute quickly and sometimes in a nonverbal way.

- Thumbs up – thumbs down
- Allow some questions to be answered with hands or body posture or pose
- How many think this..., how many think that...
- “I wonder...” and “Imagine...”
- Scale of 1-10
- What’s one thing/word...

Scaffolding Questions

1. Descriptive (what it looks like)
2. Interpretive (why... the artist might have made it the way they did, the community might have valued it, do you think it was given such care in the making, so you think it was included in a tomb, etc...)
3. Associative (how does it relate to your life)

Descriptive



Interpretive



Associative



This Afternoon

Tour of Family Friends and Communities with

- Kate Christianson
- Gail Jones
- Vicki Klaers