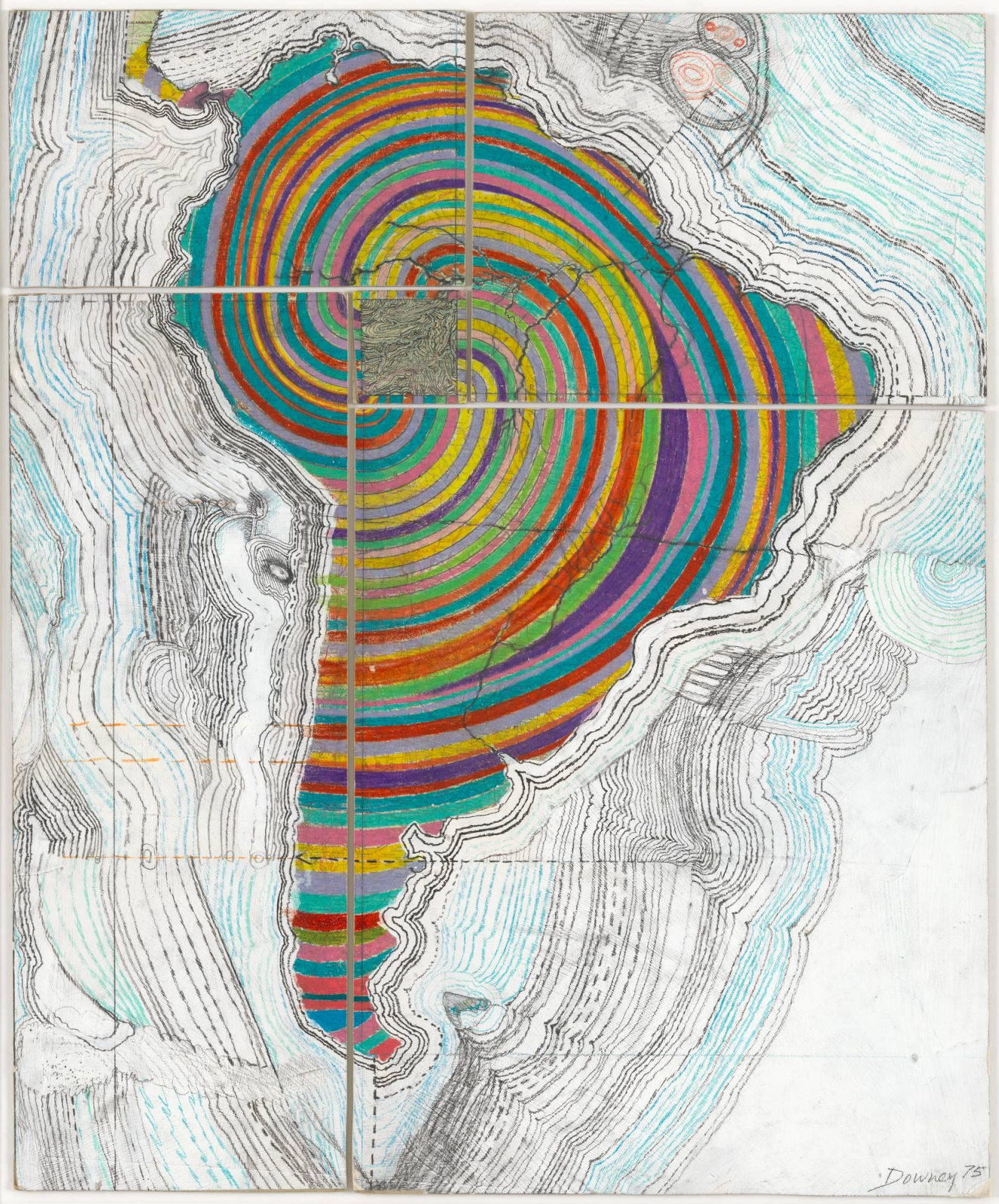


Mondays with MoMA



MoMA

Step 1 Look closely

Questions

1. What details do you notice?
2. How is this image the same as other maps you may have seen? How is it different?
3. Why do you think the artist made changes to a map of Latin America?

Step 2 Learn more

In *Map of America*, Chilean artist, Juan Downey, replaces the borders of Latin American countries with swirls of color to show his idealistic vision of a borderless America.

This drawing was inspired by a road trip from New York to the southern tip of Latin America, during which he videotaped the regional cultures he encountered. He showed the footage to people he met in the hope that he might bridge the isolation between different communities and find commonalities in their everyday experiences.

Juan Downey has described himself as a “cultural communicant” and an “activating anthropologist,” reflecting his interest in different cultures and communities.

Step 3 Activity: Redesign a Map

Materials: outline of a map, pencil or pen, (optional) colored pencils or markers

1. Start with an outline map of a place (neighborhood, state or country) that is important to you. You can trace or draw the map yourself (It doesn't have to be perfect!), or you can print a blank map from: printableworldmap.net/category/blank
2. Reflect: Why did you choose this place? What is your connection to this place? (e.g. people, culture, food)
3. Think of can you represent your connection to this place through colors, patterns and symbols.
4. Redesign the map including these patterns and/or symbols with pencil, colored pencil, markers, or any other drawing materials you have.

Step 4 Share!

Show your map to a friend or share your work with us at MoMA: schoolprograms@moma.org.



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Image: Juan Downey. *Map of America*. 1975. Colored pencil, pencil, and acrylic on map on board. Purchased with funds provided by the Latin American and Caribbean Fund and Donald B. Marron. © 2021 Juan Downey / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York