

Forward to Everything
by Jason Craighead
Audio Description Script
by Tamar Harris Warren, June 2022



Script: The following is an audio description of *Forward to Everything* by Jason Craighead. First, we will describe the piece then provide some background on the work of the artist.

Forward to Everything Created in 2008, is a mixed media abstract painting on panel and measures 90” x 144” inches horizontally.

I will begin in the background. The background is off-white. Expressive large black line drawings are layered on top of the background. The lines form shapes that move across the painting in all directions. A translucent layer of off-white paint covers the shapes creating a floating effect under the surface. Colors of teal, deep orange and gray paint are interwoven within the layers and in between the Black forms and shapes of the painting.

At the top left side of the painting a shape of black paint like a spot of ink creates a new layer. Black gestural strokes form outlines of square shapes placed one next to the other. The shapes move toward the center of the top of the painting. Three more shapes of black float in the center of the painting creating a new layer. Another small black form enters the painting on the upper right side.

Teal swaths of paint create another layer that floats down toward the bottom of the left side of the painting. The teal paint moves across the bottom of the painting like a cloud until it runs into a shape of deep orange and gray paint at the center of the bottom of the painting.

Four horizontal thick and thin black liner shapes of varying lengths enter the painting from the left side. A large thick black rectangular shape floats above the liner shapes. To the right of these thick black forms several rectangular shapes vertically and horizontally join forming one large shape. From beneath the form an explosion of teal paint dominates the bottom of

the painting. Black line drawings form a circular shape above the teal, deep orange and gray paint that vanish to the right quietly exiting the painting.

Craighead's paintings are begun on the floor where he spontaneously drops colors all over the canvases, so they soak up the drips, spills, and footprints. Then the canvases are moved to the wall where he places layers upon layers of gestural abstraction giving energy and movement to the painting.

This description was brought to you by Tamar Harris Warren an audio describer with Arts Access, a North Carolina nonprofit that works to make the arts accessible to children and adults with disabilities.