

# Y4 ART N2K SPRING 1



## Useful links

<https://elanatsui.art/artworks/3556>

[Clay joining techniques](#)

[Yorkshire Sculpture Park](#)

## Enquiry Questions

What questions would you ask El Anatsui?  
Can you explain the message behind his artwork?  
What is he trying to achieve?  
What materials does he use to create his artwork?  
How does his work compare to other Ghanaian artists?

## Key Vocabulary

**Environmental Art**: art that addresses social and political issues relating to the natural and urban environment.

**Sculpture**: three-dimensional art made by one of four basic processes: carving, modelling, casting, constructing.

**Mould**: An object made out of malleable materials.

## Key Facts

- El Anatsui (born February 4, 1944, Anyako, Ghana) is a Ghanaian sculptor who is best known for his large-scale metal tapestries constructed from bottle caps and copper wire.
- In 1975 Anatsui began teaching at the University of Nigeria. During his early years there, he worked on *Broken Pots*, a series of ceramic sculptures made from potsherds that he shattered and partially joined together.
- El Anatsui is one of the most highly acclaimed artists in African history and foremost contemporary artists in the world.
- Anatsui's work references African cultural traditions, such as weaving, kente cloth, and adinkra. His work also explores the current problems facing Africa, such as poverty and addiction.