

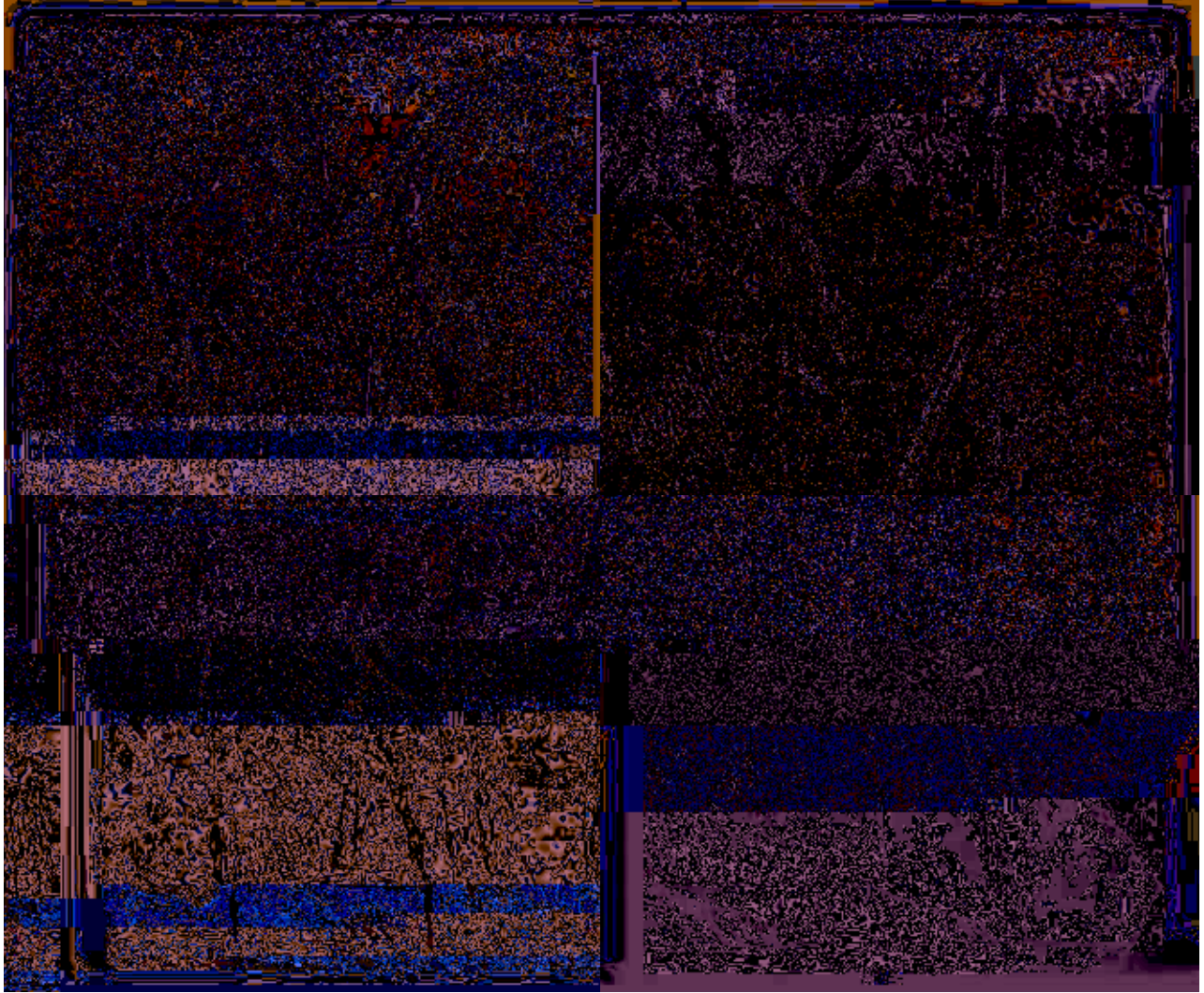
Imagine decorating the walls of your bedroom. What might you use? Why?

often add greater meaning to a work of art, revealing the distinct visual language of an individual culture. A symbol is “a form, sign or emblem that represents something else, often something immaterial, such as an idea or emotion” (MOMA). For example, the color red is often used as a symbol of passion or fury. Bedroom decorations, such as baseball mitts or records, might be symbols of a person’s passion for sports or music.

Examine the Assyrian reliefs to determine which elements could be symbolic. Begin by looking at the example below:

A stylized tree or plant (probably a date palm) with many leaves

 **w d o i n g M o u s e u m o f a r t**



Winged Spirit or Apkallu Anointing Ashurnasirpal II from Kalhu (Nimrud), Iraq, 875–860 BCE. Bowdoin College Museum of Art

(Note the carved profile on the right and the damage to the two figures on the left.)