

Student Guide

The Getty Center

Connecting Poetry & Art

POETRY PROMPT

The Perfect Mix

A Prompt by Poet Douglas Kearney



John Baldessari
American, 2000
Specimen (After Dürer)
Ink-jet on canvas with UV coating,
mounted on fiberglass composite
panel with stainless-steel T-pin
2000.37

John Baldessari's *Specimen (After Dürer)* is a work of art that copies another and then adds something new to make an interesting combination. By enlarging the copied art (a stag beetle drawn by Albrecht Dürer) and adding the giant pin, Baldessari changes the way we see the beetle.

Think of a song or saying you already know, then write it down on a carton, cup, rock, or other object. How does that change it? How might writing it small or big change it? You can also add new words to make new meanings.