

V is for vermin

ABOUT THE ART

Jamie Burmeister is a sculptor, musician and educator living and working in Omaha, Nebraska. His artworks have been exhibited in galleries, museums, and public places throughout the world. He is best known for his “vermin.me” project. As a part of this project he has created over 9000 small ceramic figures called vermin. He has installed the vermin in over 1200 places on 6 continents, 46 countries and in all 50 US states. In 2012 Burmeister installed hundreds of vermin at Plains Art Museum. After that installation closed, he

donated several of the vermin to Plains Art Museum. You can still see them around the museum. **Next time you are at the museum, take a look! See how many you can find!**



ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jamie Burneister received a B.A. in Exercise Science from Creighton University in Omaha in 1992, and M.S. in Health Education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha in 1995 and an M.F.A in Sculpture from the University Nebraska at Lincoln in 2005. To see photos of his vermin.me installations, go to jamieburmeister.com.



ART ACTIVITY

MAKE YOUR OWN VERMIN

Jamie Burmeister likes for his vermin to be seen by the public and to sometimes be discovered in odd, but public places. You can make your own vermin by using materials you have in your house. One of the easiest ways is to make vermin out of recycled aluminum foil.

- **Wash the foil if it has been used for food.**
- **With a strip about six inches long and about three inches wide, crumple the foil into a six inch log.**
- **Make it tight! The tighter you crumple the foil, the better it will hold.**
- **At one end of your six inch log, cut the log into two parts - these will be the legs.**
- **Make another six inch log that will be the arms. Wrap the arms around the body.**
- **Add a crumpled piece of foil for the head.**
- **Add more foil to all parts until it is as thick as you would like.**
- **Bend the arms and legs to be standing, sitting, climbing or whatever you would like.**



You can also use clay or wire to make your vermin - whatever you have around the house.

Place the vermin around your house for your family to find, or you can place them outside in your yard or in bushes and trees for your neighbors to find.

Have fun! Send pictures of your vermin to education@plainsart.org. We'd love to see!



PLAINS ART MUSEUM