

# MONUMENTAL SCULPTURE

CLAES OLDENBURG AND COOJSE VAN BRUGGEN

1. What does *Clothespin* resemble as it towers over a section of Philadelphia's business district?
2. When this sculpture was first proposed, many Philadelphians objected strongly. Why might some people dislike this type of art?
3. How does the visual appearance of *Spoonbridge and Cherry* reflect its Minnesota setting?
4. What serves as the inspiration for Claes Oldenburg's sculptures?
5. When did the artist's fascination with functional, everyday objects begin?
6. Oldenburg stated that he liked "to take an object and completely deprive it of its function." What did the artist mean by this?
7. How has Oldenburg deprived the cheeseburgers of their original function?
8. What are the two objects depicted in Oldenburg's *Proposed Colossal Monument for the Thames River*, and why do you think the artist chose them?
9. How does Oldenburg create "parallel realities" that force viewers to see objects in an entirely different way?
10. What materials has Oldenburg used in *Soft Toilet*, and what effect does this have when combined with the work's large scale?
11. In creating *Soft Fur Good Humors*, how has Oldenburg changed the original object?
12. How does the toothpaste-tube sculpture differ from its everyday counterpart in scale? in materials and texture?
13. What law of nature does *Tube Supported by Its Contents* appear to defy?