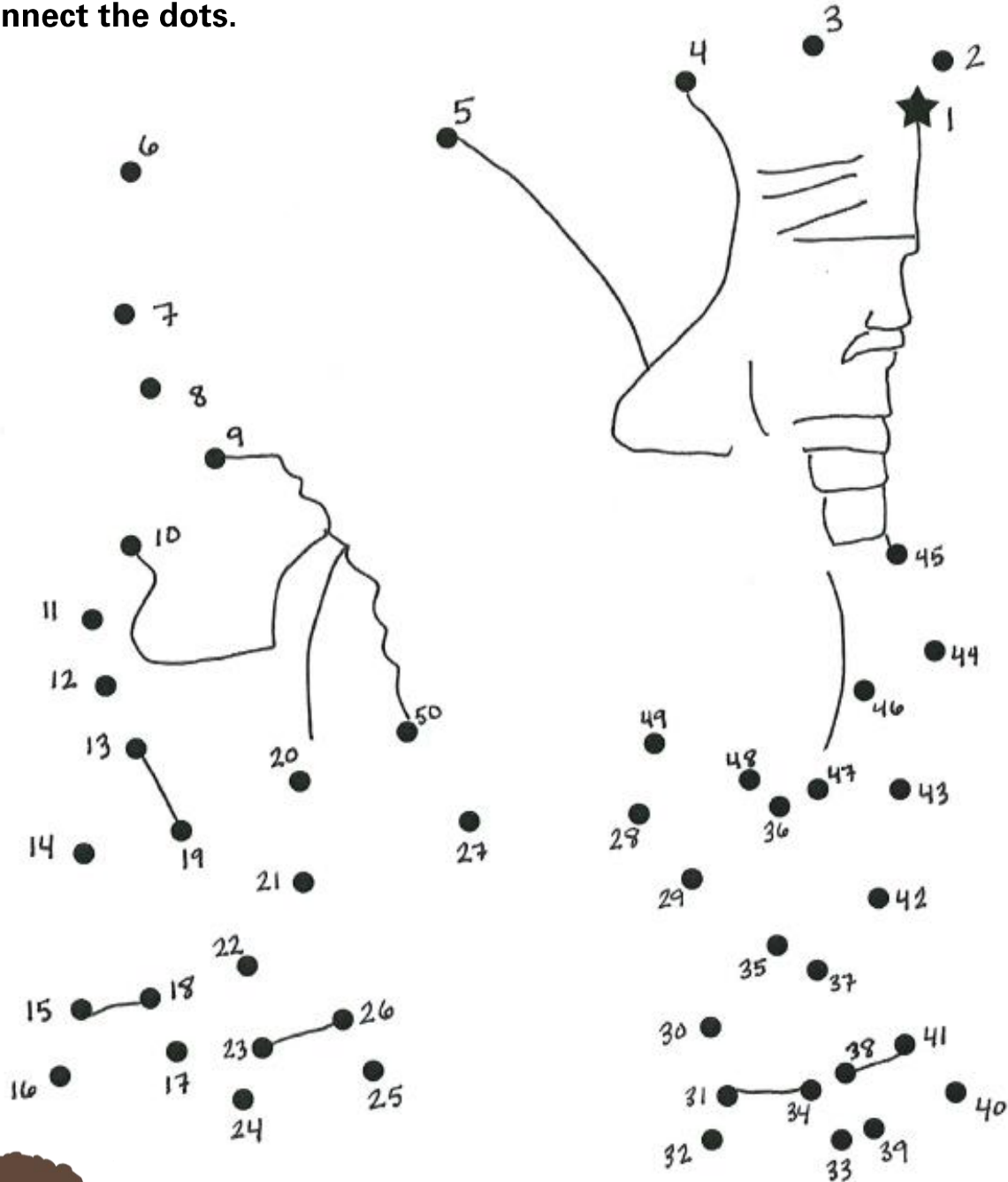


What is a **Lamassu**?

A Lamassu is a guardian figure meant to watch over a place and provide protection. Lamassu were often placed in doorways or by gates in Assyrian palaces (located in current day Iraq). The Lamassu is a symbol of power. It is made up of human, bird and bull or lion parts.

Connect the dots.



Michael Rakowitz constructed a Lamassu for the Fourth Plinth in London. The Fourth Plinth is a special project that invites living artists to create sculptures to be displayed in busy Trafalgar Square. Rakowitz recreated a Lamassu that was destroyed by ISIS in 2015. The original Lamassu guarded the entrance of the Nergal Gate from 700 BC to 2015. Rakowitz's 14-foot Lamassu was made using more than 10,000 date syrup cans!

Nasher Sculpture Center