

# Reverse Masks

*One of these faces follows your every move.*

## Try This

- Cover one eye.
- Walk from side to side and watch the faces.
- Notice that the hollow mask on the right seems to turn and follow you as you walk by.  
Also notice that this mask looks like an ordinary protruding face.

## What's Going On?

When you ride in a car, nearby objects seem to whiz by, while the distant scenery is so far off that it seems to be following you. In the same way, the nose of the right (hollow) mask is farthest away from you, so it seems to move less than the rest of the face as you walk by. Your brain can only explain this by assuming that the mask turns to watch you walk past.

This head-turning effect is most dramatic with one eye closed. That's because it's hard to judge depth in the masks when you look at them with only one eye. With insufficient information about the masks, your brain cannot tell any difference between the two. It assumes that both masks protrude outward, as ordinary faces do.