

Paint, Colour and Autobiographical Imagery

By Paula Briggs

This week in the artclub for ages 8,9 and 10 we carried on our theme of creating autobiographical work, this time exploring drawing and painting.

The artwork we created was to be used in our autobiographical suitcases/pop up gallery session later in the term. In this session, which was actually spread over two x one hour sessions, I wanted to give the children the opportunity to create work using their intuition and instinct - work which is created through a series of stages without too much blood, sweat and tears!



Using colour and form instinctively

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Exploration of Watercolour in

the Studio

After having studied watercolour paintings at the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge with AccessArt, teachers were invited to undertake their own exploration of working with watercolour, including colour mixing, paint techniques, and intention. This resource shares the processes and outcomes of the practical studio session.

Introduction to Watercolour

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Pathway: Exploring Watercolour



[Featured in the 'Exploring Watercolour'](#)

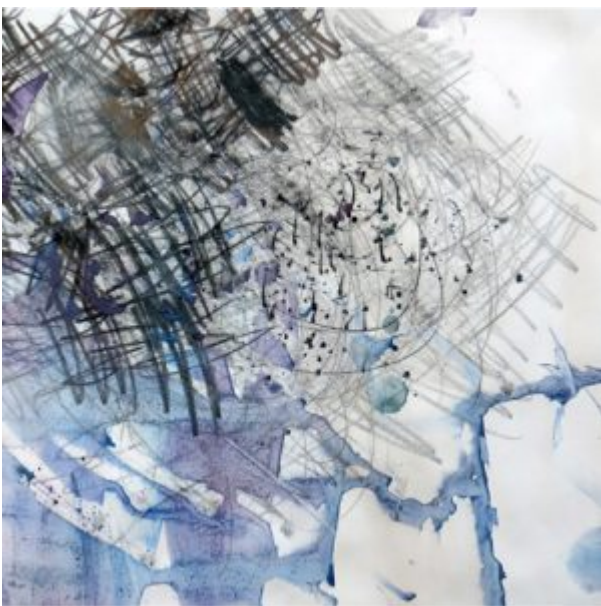
[pathway](#)

Pathway: Mixed Media Land and city scapes



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PAINTING THE STORM AT BOURN PRIMARY SCHOOL



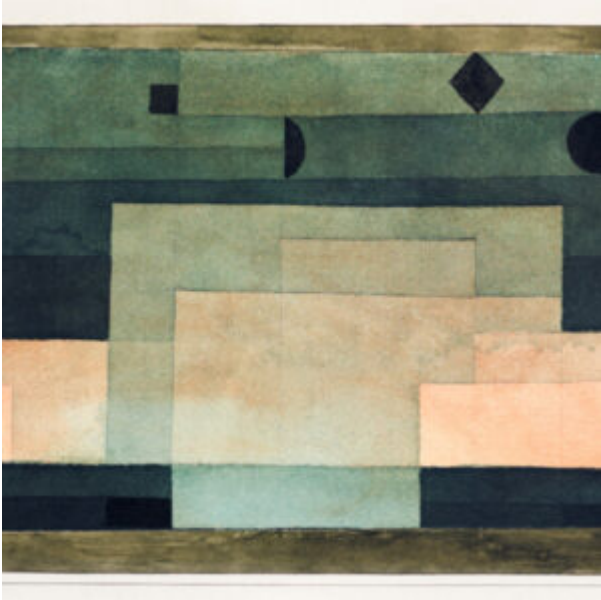
Collection of Landscape Resources by Hester Berry



part 2: Exploration of Watercolour in the studio



Talking Points: Paul Klee



Exploring Watercolour at the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge with AccessArt

part 1: Introduction to Watercolour



The resource describes and demonstrates individual watercolour techniques, and then shows examples of these techniques in paintings from the Fitzwilliam Collection.

part 2: Exploration of Watercolour in the studio



After studying paintings from the collection at first hand and identifying how various marks within the paintings may have been made, teachers undertake their own exploration of working with watercolour.

The
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Painting the Storm, at Bourn Primary Academy

Wax Resist with Coloured Inks and Sgraffito on Foamboard

The Friendship Tower by Rachel Scanlon

A 3D workshop inspired by the onset of the world cup and discovering more about other nations. by Rachel Scanlon

The Paint Swing-0-Meter

Gothic Revival: Craft

Techniques for the Class Room Inspired by the Leach Firm of Cambridge

How to Make a Tessellated Design



‘Pouncing’: A Simple Technique to Transfer Patterns onto Plaster Tablets



Gilding and a ‘Touch of Gold’



Painting on glass



The Firm

In 1862 Frederick Leach started F. R. Leach & Sons, artist-decorators who worked with the best-known Victorian architects/designers including William Morris, Charles Kempe and George Bodley.

Their expertise led the firm to work on ecclesiastical and civic arts, crafts and decoration as well as domestic architecture and interiors.

If their workshops could talk they would have told of stained glass being designed, painted and fired; stone statues carved; wooden decorations turned; panels chiselled, decorated and gilded; furniture crafted; metal forged; and tiles painted. In fact they could create anything that a well-decorated house, church or college would need.

Pouncing

Wall painting was a popular decoration for churches during the neo-gothic revival in the mid to late Victorian era.

The paint colour was mixed by hand and then often applied straight to the wall or ceiling. The design was often painted freehand or using stencils which included a technique called 'Pouncing'.

This technique is where the design is drawn out on paper and the outline is pricked all around to produce small holes.

Click on the image above to see [How to Make a Tessellated Design](#).

This is then placed on the wall and dabbed all over with a small bag of fabric filled with powdered graphite or chalk. The powder is forced through the holes so that when the paper is removed it leaves an outline of the pattern on the walls.

Click on the image above to see how teenagers used ['Pouncing' to Transfer Designs onto Plaster Tablets](#)

Gilding

Gilding was a popular finish for the ornaments that decorated the ceilings of neo-gothic churches.

These ornaments were made of lead or plaster and were often start that shone down from their great height once gilded in gold.

The first stage to gilding is when gold is pounded until it becomes as thin as tissue paper (25g can be beaten out to cover an area of 3m square).

The surface of the ornament to be gilded is prepared by

brushing it all over with a glue called size.

This is left to dry until it reaches a 'tacky' state.

The gold sheets are then carefully laid onto the surface of the ornament and the size sticks it to the surface.

The gold is then worked into all the areas of the ornaments using a brush to push it down. There were special brushes made for doing this including one made from squirrel's fur.

Click on the image below to see how to apply gold leaf to a plaster relief sculpture [Gilding and a Touch of Gold](#)

Stained Glass

The neo-gothic revival saw a resurgence in stained glass design for churches and domestic architecture of the day.

One technique used was that of Silver Staining Glass. This is where silver nitrate is painted onto clear glass and fired until the silver paint becomes part of the molecular structure of the glass and produces colours from a pale yellow to a rich orangey-amber.

Follow the link above to see [How to Print on Glass](#).

Motifs or designs were painted onto glass 'quarries' or shapes of glass that would be could together to form a leaded window.

For this reason diamonds, squares or other shapes that would tessellate were popular. This type of stained glass window also allowed a lot of light into the building which went well with the decoration of a neo-gothic church where the walls were decorated and deserved to be seen.

Gilding and a 'Touch of Gold'

'Pouncing': A Simple Technique to Transfer Patterns onto Plaster Tablets

Jo Allen and Rachael Causer: Relief Printmaking at Ridgefield Primary School

Making Plaster Reliefs

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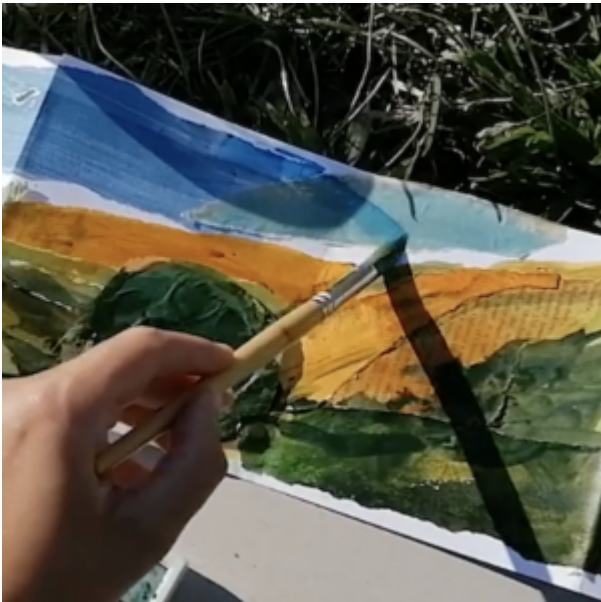
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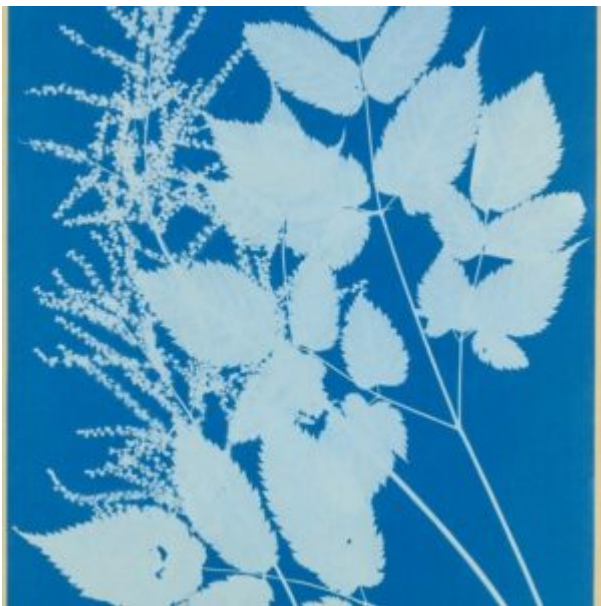


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Talking Points: Frances Hatch



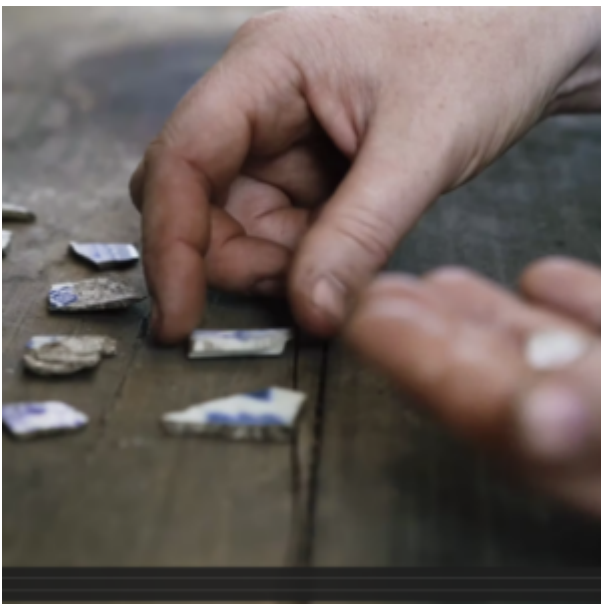
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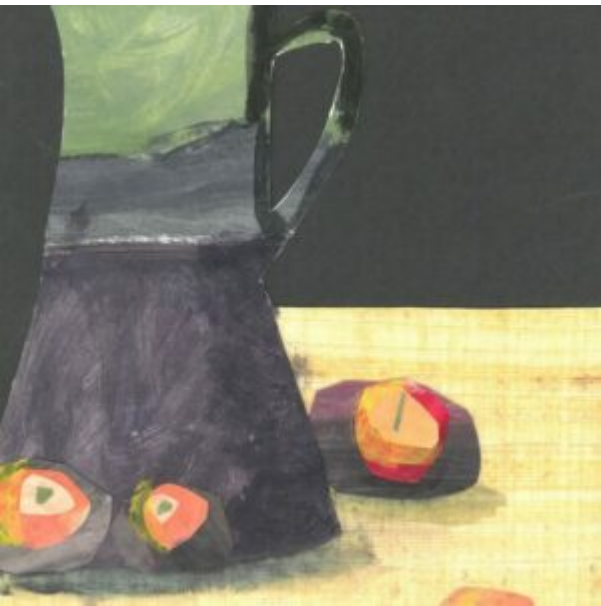
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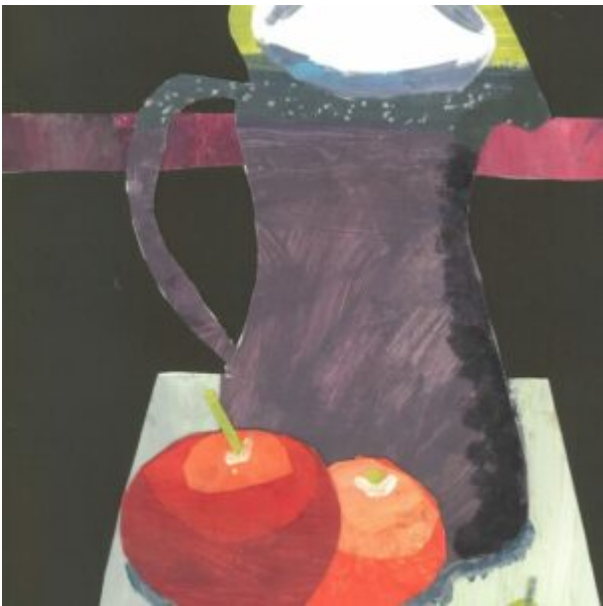
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