

Cantus Arcticus (Concerto for Birds and Orchestra) Op.61: Images Inspired by Music

In 1972, the Finnish composer Einojuhani Rautavaara was commissioned to write a ceremonial piece for the University of Oulu, Finland. He combined birdsong with orchestral music to create a haunting and evocative sound.

The birdsong was recorded in the Arctic Circle and Finland and includes the calls of the shore lark and a flock of swans. There are a number of versions available on YouTube but we have chosen this link which includes a slideshow of the music written by Rautavaara. As the music plays and its magic takes hold, the score becomes a sequence of beautiful graphic images of pattern: drawings of sound. Alternatively, looking away from the screen and focussing attention purely on the music allows the imagination free reign.

We hope that the music will inspire you to create your own visual responses - for ideas on how to explore drawing and music have look at these exciting resources:

['A Cheerful Orchestra and Other Ideas for Drawing Music'](#) by Hannah Coulson

['Drawing Music'](#) by Sheila Ceccarelli

This is a sample of resource created by UK Charity AccessArt. We have over 1100 resources to help develop and inspire your creative thinking, practice and teaching.

AccessArt welcomes artists, educators, teachers and parents both in the UK and overseas.

We believe everyone has the right to be creative and by working together and sharing ideas we can enable everyone to reach their creative potential.

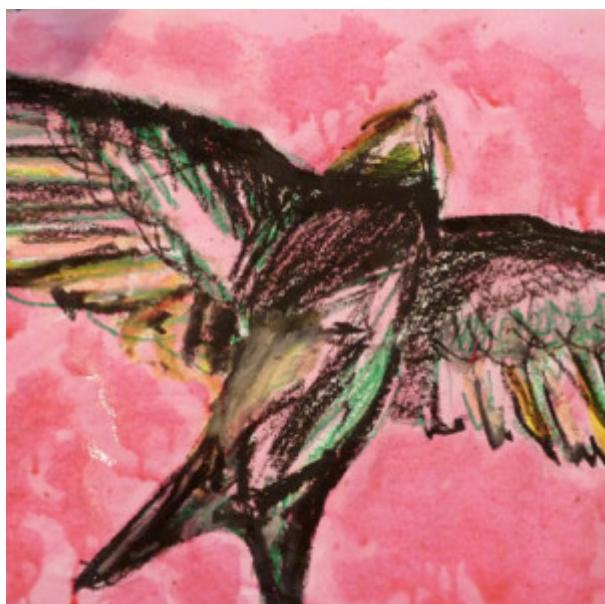
How to Make a Simple Origami Bird by Melanie Johns

Melanie Johns suggests using origami to transform old artwork. It's an exciting way of using less successful drawings or paintings on paper to produce a new creative outcome, in the form of a personalised paper sculpture.

'Birds in the Trees' by Pupils at Battyeford Primary School

You May Also Like....

Visual Arts Planning Collections: Birds



Drawing Feathers



Flat yet sculptural



**Year 3 & 4 Making Club:
Articulated Beasts**

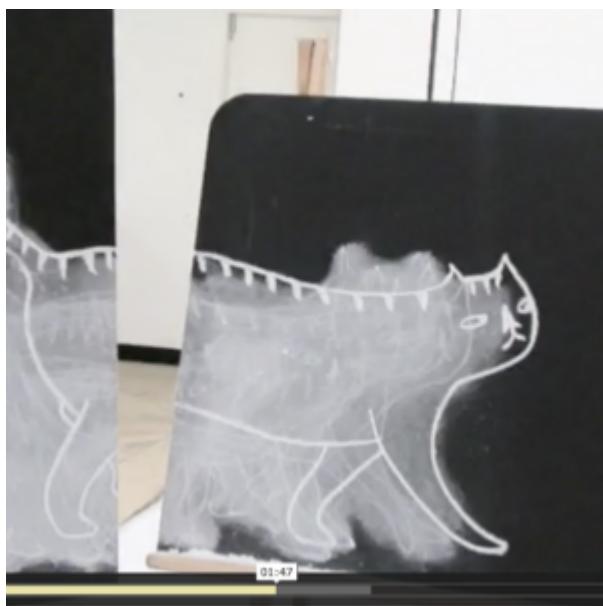
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Pathway: Making Animated Drawings



[This is featured in the 'Making Animated Drawings' pathway](#)

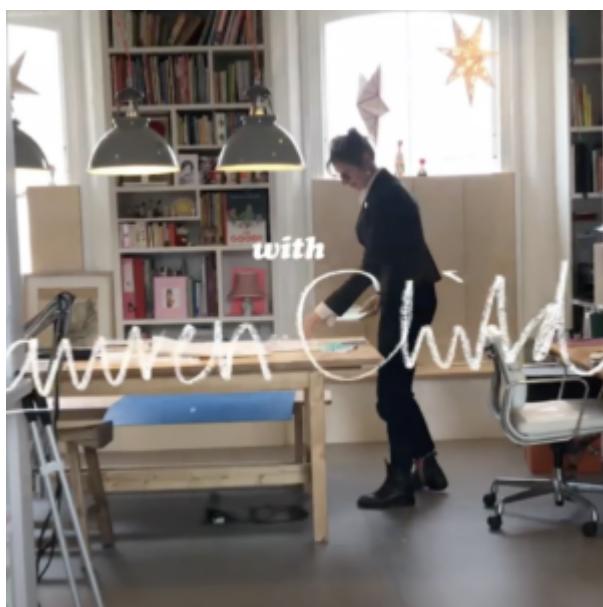
Talking points: Making drawings move



Talking Points: paper cut puppets



Talking Points: Lauren child



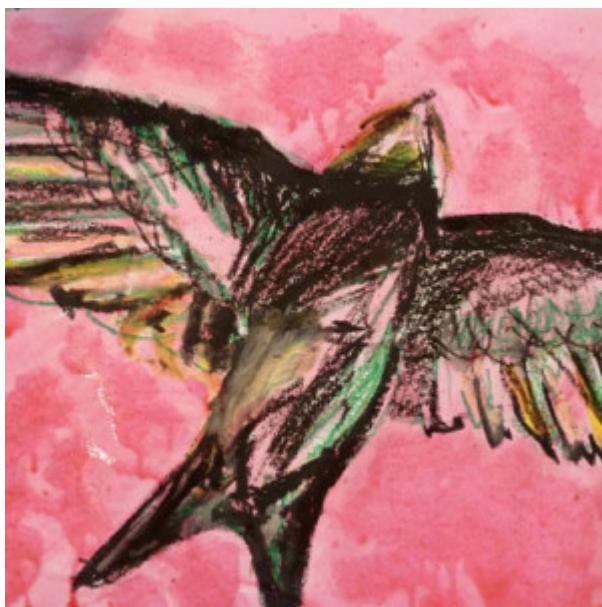
Talking Points: Lotte reiniger



In the Company of Birds

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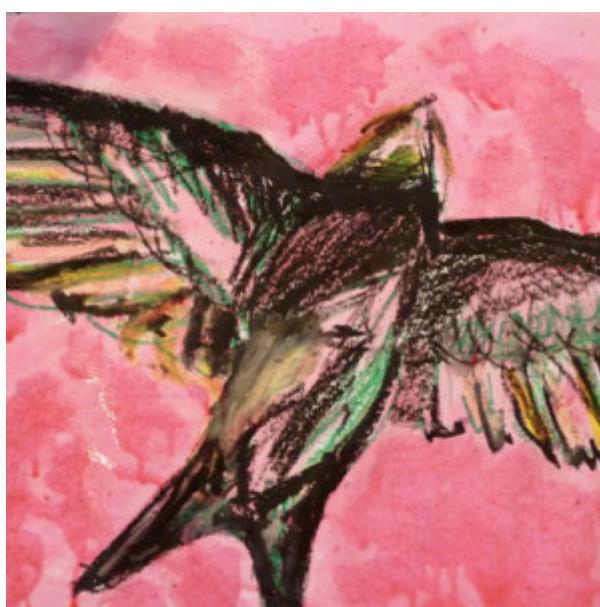
Drawings by Teenagers at AccessArt's Experimental Drawing Class

A simple project to teach how to make an articulated drawing with only very basic materials.

“Flock” at Prospect House School, Inspired by Veronica Lindsay-Addy

You May Also Like....

Visual Arts Planning Collections: Birds



Swoop



How To Make an Origami Bird



Printing at Battyeford

Primary, Inspired by Hester Cox

Illustrating ‘The Jabberwocky’

In this resource, AccessArt contributor Eleanor Somerset, illustrates how she worked with a group of 7-10 year old pupils and another of 10-15 year old budding artists, at the Little Art Studio in Sheffield, on a series of workshops to illustrate Lewis Carroll's The Jabberwocky.

Paint, Colour and Autobiographical Imagery

My House – A Cardboard Construction Project

These autobiographical architectural sculptures use corrugated cardboard, laid in strips on their side, to create sculptures designed to be peered in to!

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

You May Also Like...

Pathway: Exploring Watercolour



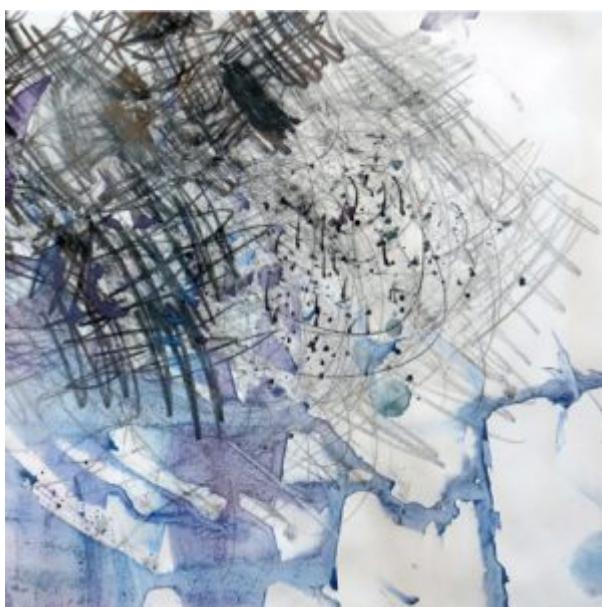
Featured in the 'Exploring Watercolour' pathway

Pathway: Mixed Media Land and city scapes



This is featured in the 'Mixed Media Land and City Scapes' pathway

PAINTING THE STORM AT BOURN PRIMARY SCHOOL



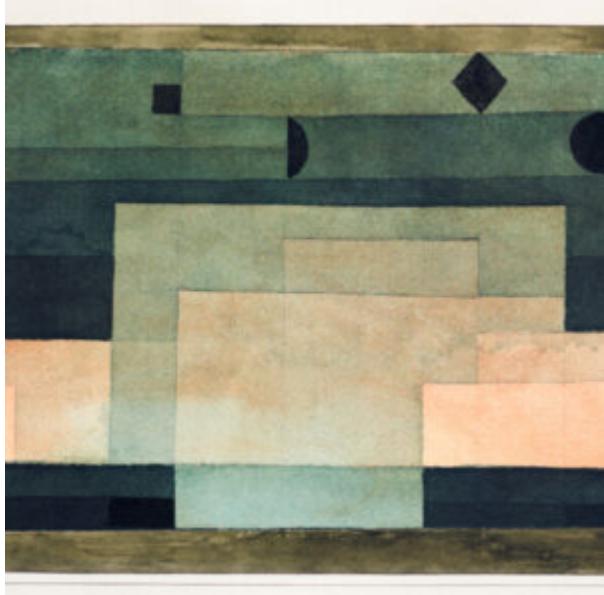
Collection of Landscape Resources by Hester Berry



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
Fitzwilliam
Museum
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Sculptural Birds in Flight by Teenage Makers

In this workshop teenagers played with sculptural ideas around building form and mass, tension and scale by combining materials from Scrap Stores.

Autobiographical Suitcase Pop-Up Gallery

This resource shares how 8, 9 and 10 year old children created a home for all of their sculptures and paintings in the form of a cardboard suitcase which doubled up as a pop-up gallery.

'Dawn Chorus' by Marcus Coates

Brave Young Makers: Year

Three Pupils at Ridgefield Primary Transform Materials into Birds and Insects

This workshop presented year three pupils at Ridgefield Primary School with real design and making challenges as they worked to a brief to 'create birds and insects for their school tree'.

Making a RollerCoaster by Julia Rigby

KS1 children use their imaginations and sense of fun to collaborate to create a model roller coaster with moving parts.

Priscilla the Puffin: Make a Simple Bird Mobile

Nicola McGovern was one of the artists who generously donated an artwork to the AccessArt Share-a-Bird Project. She sent a mobile of a puffin and included a template so that the children who received her bird could have fun making a whole flock of puffins.