

Talking Points: Making Drawings With Your Whole Body – Molly Haslund

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce children to the work of Danish artist Molly Haslund.

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The Circle Project by Molly Haslund

Teacher's Notes

"Molly Haslund ventures out into the city wearing grey: a grey suit, grey socks and grey shoes so that she blends in with the tarmac and the pavement. She carries a huge pair of compasses much taller than herself. She stops somewhere and starts drawing a white circle on the ground. She completes the first circle and then moves the pair of compasses and starts drawing a new circle that overlaps the first one. She draws a third circle and stands in her grey shoes in the middle of the circle for a moment before snapping the pair of compasses together and moving on."

<https://www.mollyhaslund.com/circles-2013-2>

"... The focus is on the physical action, on the movement of the circles, and the patterns emerging and disappearing again – and of course the effect

grows with the number of participants. on the other hand, if you want to draw alone, you can just withdraw a little from the rest. A bit like on the dance floor.” [Molly Haslund](#)

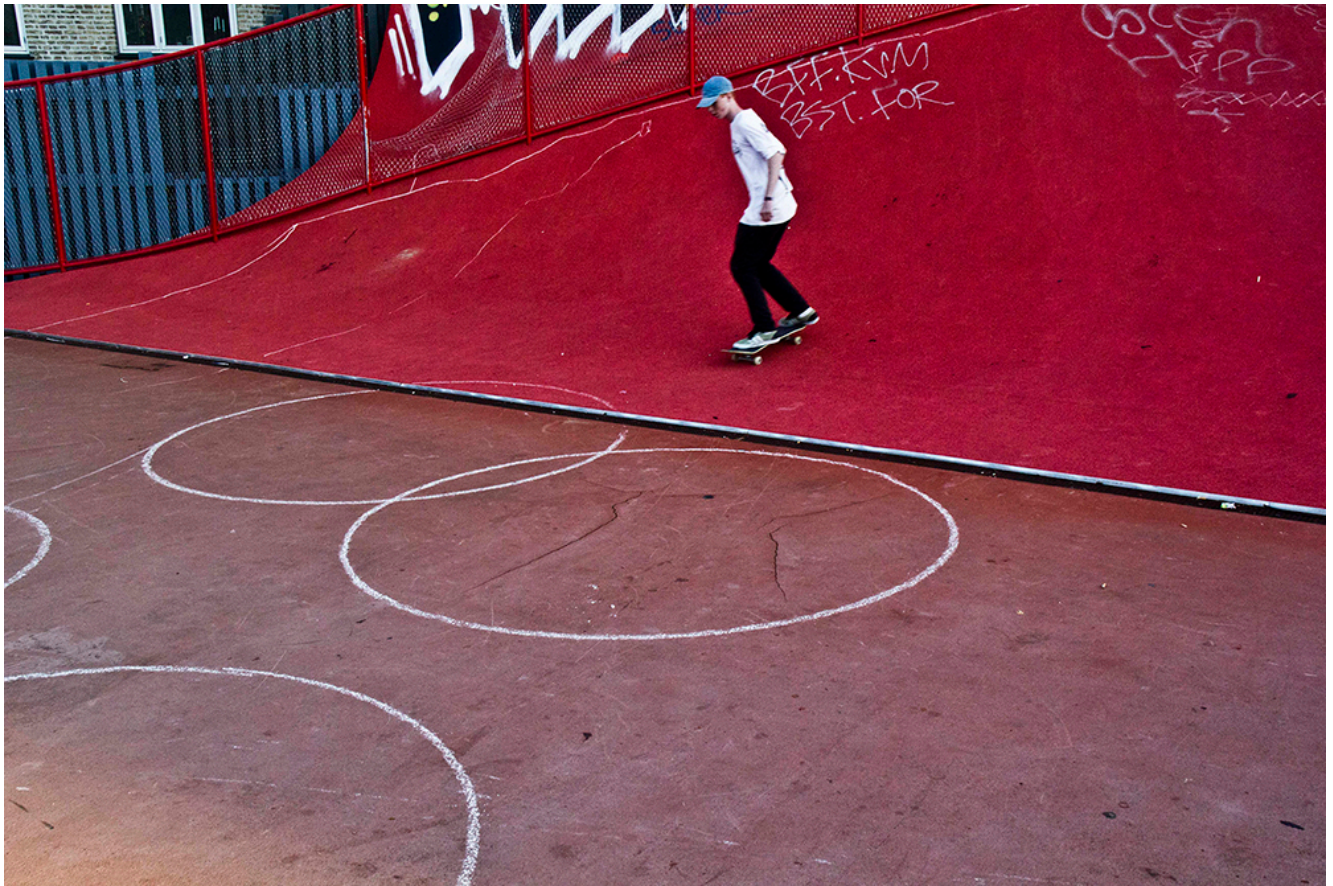
Watch the video with the pupils, and look at the images below. Find questions to prompt discussion at the end of this resource.



Circles, Molly Haslund, 2015, New York, Peekskill Project #6, Hudson Valley MOCA, Photo by Joe Orangias



Circles (2013), Molly Haslund, Museum of Contemporary Art, Roskilde, Denmark, Photo by Matilde Haaning



Circles, Molly Haslund, 2014, Art Week, Superkilen, Copenhagen, Denmark, Photo by Matilde Haaning



Circles, Molly Haslund, 2014, Art Week, Superkilen, Copenhagen, Denmark, Photo by Matilde Haaning

Questions to Ask Children

How would you feel if you came across these circles in your street or playground, without knowing who had made them or why? What would you do? Would they change the way you move?

How do you think Molly, the artist, chooses where to make her circles?

How could you make similar circles in your playground, using chalk tied to sticks?

How would the circles you make join up with the

circles your friends make?

What would other pupils in your school think if they discovered your circles? What do you think they would do?

What other shapes could you make with your body in the playground? Would you need tools?

If music played would you make different shapes? How would the shapes be different?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Spirals



This is featured in the 'Spirals' pathway
using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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See This Resource Used In Schools...





Talking Points: Brush Work of Van Gogh & Cezanne

A collection of imagery and sources designed to stimulate an exploration of

the brushwork of Van Gogh and Cezanne.

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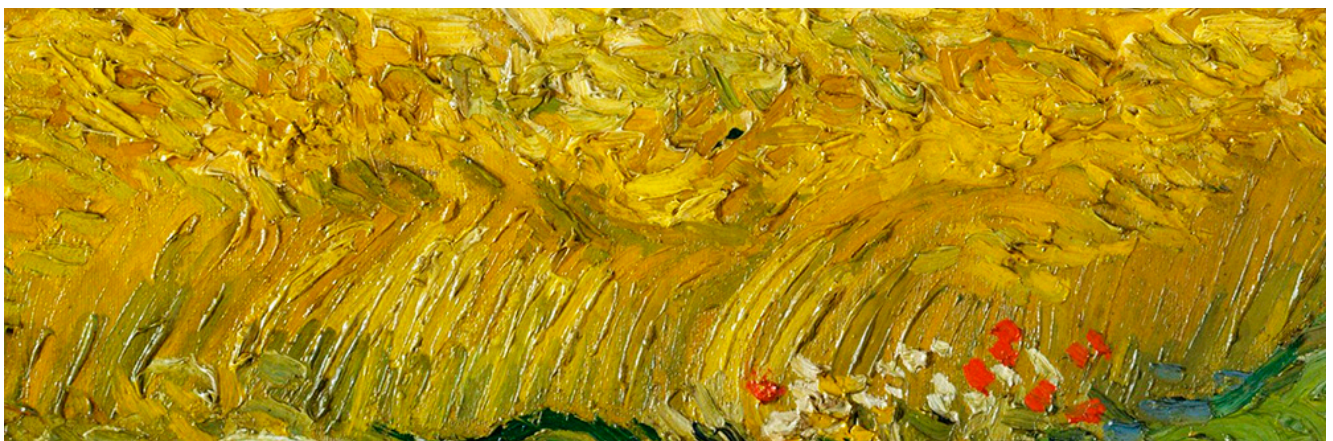
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Exploring the Brushwork of Van Gogh and Cezanne

If we zoom in and look closely at the brushwork of both Cezanne and Van Gogh you'll see how they applied paint using fluid loose marks with complex colours, and yet when you stand back, the brush marks and the colours find their place to help tell the story of the painting.

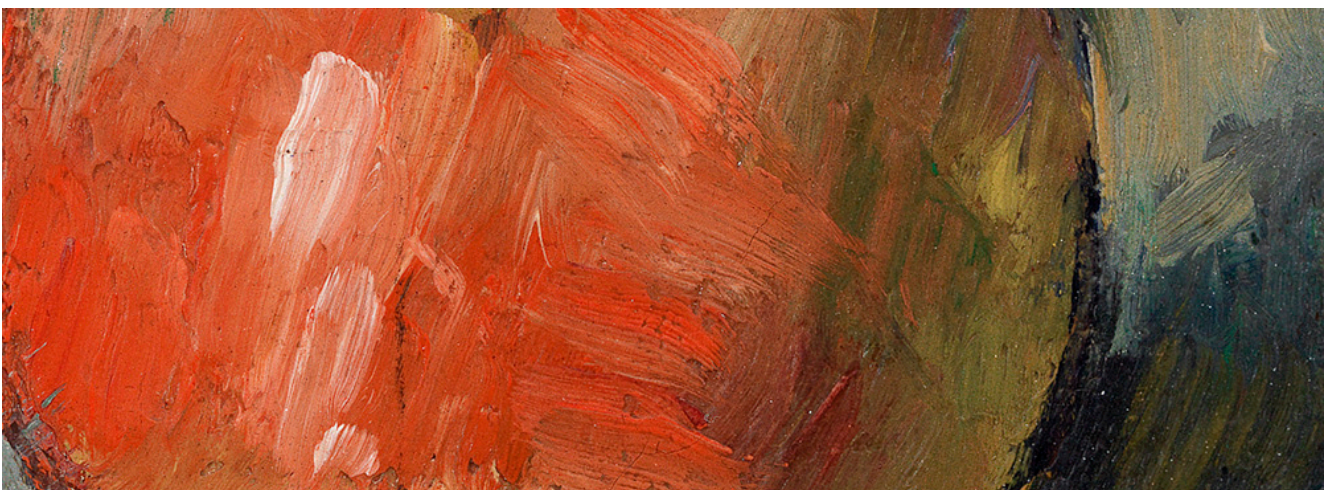
In this resource we have zoomed in on sections of paintings to help pupils see the kinds of marks made by the painters.

Use the questions at the end to help guide an exploration.





Top: Detail: Wheat Field with Cypresses (1889) by Vincent Van Gogh. Original from the MET Museum.





Top: Detail: Three Apples (Deux pommes et demie) (ca. 1878–1879) by Paul Cézanne. Original from Original from Barnes Foundation.

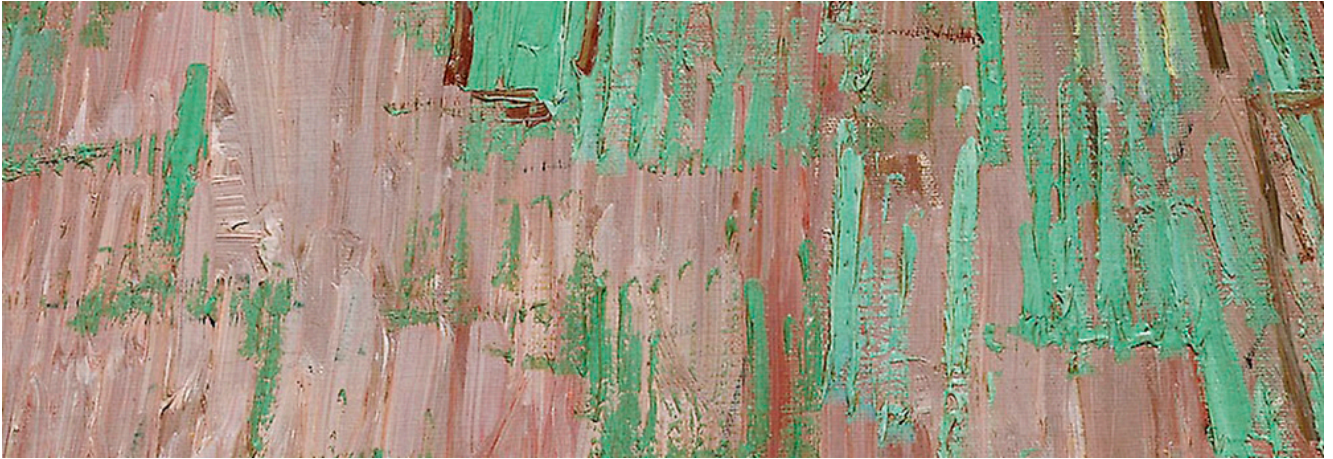




Top: Detail: Houses and Figure (1890) by Vincent Van Gogh. Original from the Barnes Foundation.



Top: Detail: Houses in Provence: The Riaux Valley near L'Estaque (ca. 1883) by Paul Cézanne.



Top: Detail: The Bedroom (1889) by Vincent Van Gogh.

Questions to Ask Children

“Impasto” describes paint when it is applied so thickly onto the canvas that it remains raised. Can you see areas of impasto in the paintings above?

Can you find an area of a painting where the artist has let the colour of the canvas show through?

Can you find examples of where the artist hasn't mixed the colour on a palette – instead he has applied wet paint of one colour over wet paint of another colour and you can see where it mixes on the canvas?

Think about direction of brush strokes – can you find an area of canvas where the brush strokes go a particular direction? How do the artists' change the direction of the brush strokes according to the subject matter of what they are painting?

How would you describe some of the brush strokes? Restful? Busy? Rhythmical? Chaotic?

Can you see areas of the paintings where the artist uses outlines? Doesn't use outlines?

How many different colours can you spot in a particular area of canvas? Do you think the artist gives those colours names?

What kinds of tools or brushes do you think the

artist might have used?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Expressive Painting



[This is featured in the 'Expressive Painting' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Charlie French

A collection of imagery and sources designed to stimulate conversation around the work of Charlie French.

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Charlie French

“I embrace a blank canvas with a sense of wonder and adventure.”

Charlie French is an abstract painter, living in London.

[Website](#)

Instagram



In the Fathoms Below, copyright Charlie French



“What inspires you?”

“I am asked that question a lot. And I think there are obvious ones you see in my series: Disney movies, music, the ocean, the beautiful world I see, my happy memories and an imagination that cracks me up.

And lots of times I am inspired simply by my love of COLORS and SHAPES. I pick my colour palette and just paint.

The truth is that every day is different. But I am most happy when I can walk up to a canvas and let go. I am free. Freedom in life is very important. Don't you think, Friends???"

Copyright Charlie French



Copyright Charlie French

Questions to Ask Children

How would you describe Charlie's work?

How does it make you feel?

How would you describe the colours?

Charlie thinks it's important to feel free and have the space to explore in your artwork. Would you agree? Have you ever felt like that? How do you think he lets himself feel like that?

When Charlie puts the paint on the canvas, what kinds of movements does he make with his body? Can you do "air painting" and move your arm as you think he did to apply the paint? Stand up!

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Expressive Painting



This is featured in the 'Expressive Painting' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Marela Zacarías

A collection of imagery and sources designed to stimulate conversation around the work of Marela Zacarías.

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Marela Zacarías

“My pieces are sculptural paintings. I make the piece take your eye into spaces you wouldn’t think to look.”

Marela is a painter/sculptor who creates undulating painted forms which explore movement and colour. The majority of Marela’s pieces are site specific (created for a particular location).

Marela lives between Brooklyn and Mexico City

[Website](#)

Questions to Ask Children

How would you describe Marela's artwork to someone who couldn't see it?

How does it make you feel? How would you react if you were in the same space?

What does it remind you of?

Does your eye stay still when you look at it?

Can you imagine how Marela works out how the pieces join together?

Is it like anything you have seen before?

What kinds of colours does she use?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Expressive Painting



This is featured in the 'Expressive Painting' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: What is Screenprint?

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce children to the process of screenprint.

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Screenprint

Teachers Notes

Screen print is a printing process in which a mesh (silk screen) is used to transfer ink to a surface such as paper or fabric. An image is exposed into the mesh with UV light. Once exposed some areas of the mesh will be blocked and some will allow ink to pass through.

Watch the video below to show children the process in action before trying our [Screen Print Classroom Hack.](#)



Theresa Easton, Screenprints and Silk Screen

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: working with shape and colour



This is featured in the 'Working with Shape and Colour' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: What is Monotype?

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce children to the process of monotype.

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Monotype

A monotype is a simple printmaking process that is used to create one off prints. Sometimes artists will create a 'ghost' print from whatever is left on the printing plate after an initial print has been taken.

There are many ways that a monotype can be made. A metal or plastic plate is painted onto with any material that will transfer marks to paper under pressure.

A monotype is a stand alone print whereas a monoprint is a print that is part of a series.

Find our collection of monotype resources [here](#).

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Making Monotypes

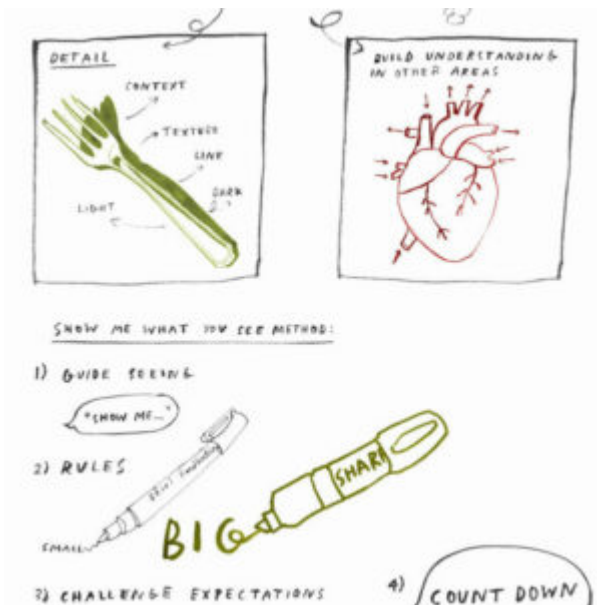


[This is featured in the 'Making Monotypes' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Faith
Ringgold

Introducing you to the work of Faith Ringgold.

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Faith Ringgold

Faith Ringgold is an artist and activist who grew up during the Harlem Renaissance. Ringgold communicates personal narratives, history and politics through her painted quilts.

In this video Faith Ringgold discusses how she fought to get women and African-American artists into museums.

Watch this video to see how Ringgold combines cloth, paint and thread to make her quilts.

[Faith Ringgold on Google Arts & Culture](#)

See more at [Ringgold's website](#)

Questions to Ask Children

Faith emphasises the importance of focussing upon personal experience through art; How does she do this and why do you think this is important?

Are there things you care about that you'd like to

make art about to help you share your thoughts/views? What's important to you?

"When they're looking at my work, they're looking at a painting and they're able to accept it better because it is also a quilt." – Faith Ringgold

Why do you think people are more accepting of a quilt than a painting? What do you associate with quilts?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Print & Activism



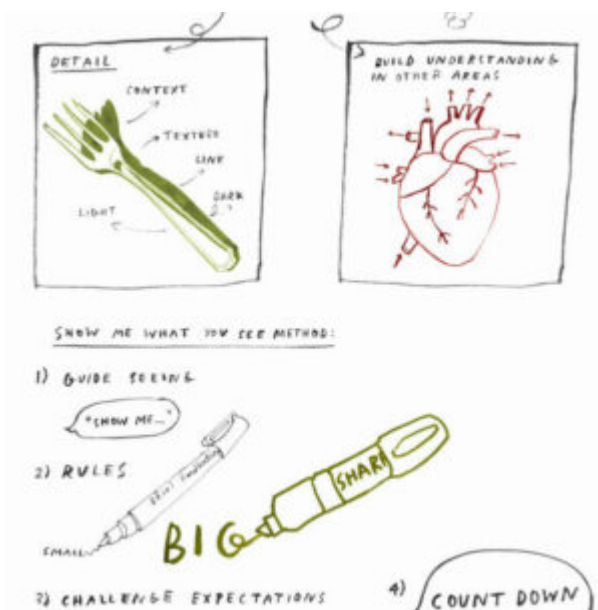
[This is featured in the 'Print &](#)

Activism' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Shepard Fairey

Introducing you to the work of artist and activist Shepard Fairey.

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Shepard Fairey

Shepard Fairey is a contemporary street artist and activist. In his work he tackles topics such as political power and propaganda. Fairey uses stencils and screen print to make his work.



The Black Hills Are Not For Sale, Screen Print, 18

x 24 inches, July 2012

See more at [Faireys website](#) and [Instagram feed](#)

Questions to Ask Children

How many processes can you identify in the first video? Why do you think Shepard uses so many different processes/mediums?

When you look at Fairey's 'The Black Hills Are Not For Sale' what do you see?

If you don't know about the Black Hills can you still figure out what this artwork might be trying to communicate?

Why is it important for artists to create work that questions what is going on in the world?

Do you think that Faireys work is successful in communicating important messages? Why do you think this?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Print & Activism

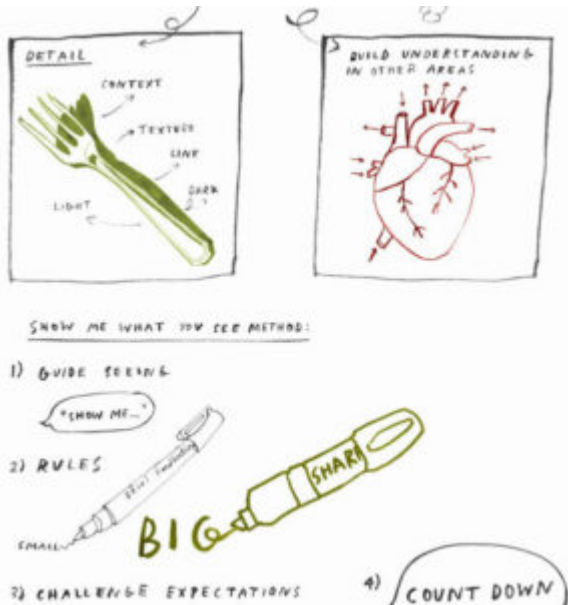


This is featured in the 'Print & Activism' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Grayson Perry A Map of Days

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce pupils to “A Map of Days” by Grayson Perry.

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A Map of Days by Grayson Perry

“Grayson Perry RA created this map of a walled city as a self-portrait for an exhibition at the National Portrait Gallery. He said ‘I thought the walled city was a good metaphor – the wall, I suppose, can roughly be interpreted as your skin. But like any city, it’s dependent on the landscape it sits in as well.’ “ [RA](#)

[See the Map on Google Arts & Culture.](#)

[Interview about the making of the map.](#)

Note for teachers on adult content: Please be advised that from 0.24 to 0.39 and 1.34 until 1.57 of this video, there is inappropriate language shown on the map. You may wish to show up to this point or to skip past the shot of the language in question.

Questions to Ask Children:

How does Grayson Perry use text in the map?

Can you find text on buildings as well as street names? How do you think he decides which text to make small, and which to make larger?

How much does Grayson Perry reveal about himself through the map?

Can you spot any symbols or visual metaphors?

This Talking Points Is Used

In...

Pathway: Typography and Maps



This is featured in the 'Typography and Maps' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



Talking Points: Hogwarts Maps

A collection of imagery and sources to explore the Hogwarts Maps.

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Hogwarts Maps

There are many maps inspired by Hogwarts, the most famous of course is the Marauders map.

Use the sources below to focus a conversation with children about the typography and design of the highly visual maps.

Questions to Ask Children:

Why do you think the designers chose the typography they did for the diary and map?

What kind of feeling are they trying to create?

How do you feel when you look at the map?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Typography and Maps



This is featured in the 'Typography and Maps' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



Talking Points: Paula Scher

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce pupils to the work of graphic designer Paula Scher.

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Paula Scher

Paula Scher is an American graphic designer, painter and art educator in design.

Paula creates branding, but she also created a series of “maps” which contain “errors and mistakes”. Explore in the video and link below.

“Paula Scher painted two 9-by-12-foot maps that resembled patchwork quilts from afar, but contain much textual detail. She created lines that represented the separation of political allies or borders dividing enemies. Scher created the maps into layers that reference what we think when we think of Japan, Kenya, or the Upper East Side.

For instance, The United States (1999) was painted in blocky white print and full with a list of facts that we comprehend when we think about cities. Africa (2003) is represented in a stark

black and white palette, hinting at a tortured colonial past. The land of the red rising sun is represented when we think of Japan (2004).

Scher decided to produce silk-screened prints of The World that contained large-scale images of cities, states, and continents blanketed with place names and other information. It is full of mistakes, misspellings, and visual allusions to stereotypes of places such as South America, painted with hot colours and has two ovaries on the sides. It was not created to be a reliable map but convey a sense of the places that are mediated and mangled.” [Wiki](#)

www.pentagram.com/news/paula-scher-maps

Abstract: Art of the Design/ Paula Scher

Please Note: At timecode 8.00 Paula Scher talks about her maps.

Questions to Ask Children:

How would you describe one of Paula's maps to someone who couldn't see them?

In what ways do Paula's maps differ from regular maps?

How would these maps change if you held them in your hand?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Typography and Maps

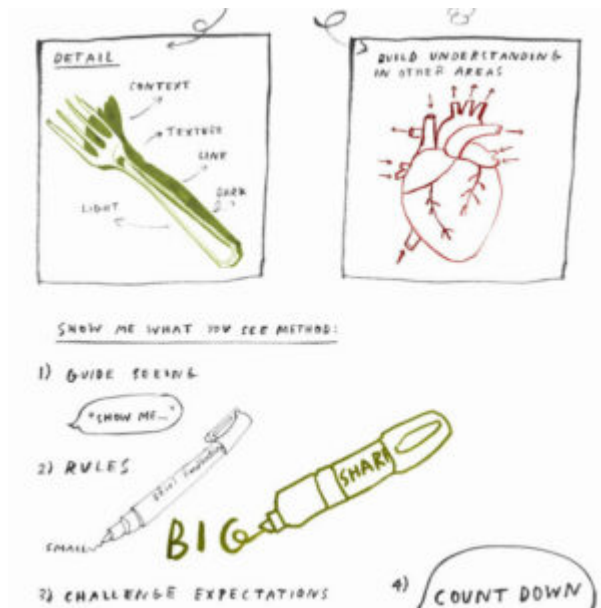


[This is featured in the 'Typography and Maps' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Louise Fili

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce pupils to the work of Typographer Louise Fili.

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Louise Fili

Founded in 1989, Louise Fili Ltd is an award-winning New York-based graphic and digital design firm specialising in strategic brand development and packaging for speciality food products.

Enjoy the video below where Louise shares how she made a poster for the New York Subway.

[Louise Fili Website](#)

Subway Series: Louise Fili

Watch this video in Vimeo [here](#).

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Pathway: Typography and Maps

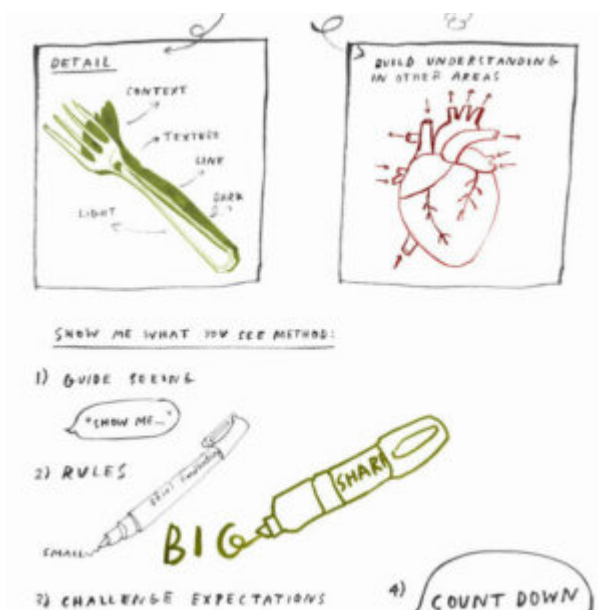


[This is featured in the 'Typography and Maps' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Bridge Design

A collection of imagery and sources designed to explore bridge design.

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Bridge Design

Architects often use bridge design as a way to showcase their innovation. Many bridge designs entered for competitions never get built – but the ideas behind them move forward ideas about contemporary architecture.

Explore the videos below to focus a discussion about what is possible.

The Garden Bridge by [Heatherwick Studios](#)

The worlds first 3D printed bridge with robots by Joris Laarman

The Bouncing Bridge by AZC

[Zaha Hadid Architects](#), Conceptual Bridge Project

Questions to Ask Children

What do bridges do?

How can bridges represent the communities they

connect?

Are bridges just about destinations? Or are they about journeys?

Is there a limit to what a bridge can be?

Is there a limit to the materials you can use?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Be an architect



[This is featured in the 'Be an Architect' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Hundertwasser the Architect

A collection of imagery and sources designed to explore the work of architect Hundertwasser.

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Hundertwasser the Architect

Use the following images and videos to introduce children to the work of Austrian artist **Friedrich Stowasser**, better known by his pseudonym **Friedensreich Regentag Dunkelbunt Hundertwasser** (1928 – 2000).

Hundertwasser was a visual artist and architect and he also worked in the field of environmental protection.

“Hundertwasser stood out as an opponent of “a straight line” and any standardization, expressing this concept in the field of building design. ”

[Wiki](#)

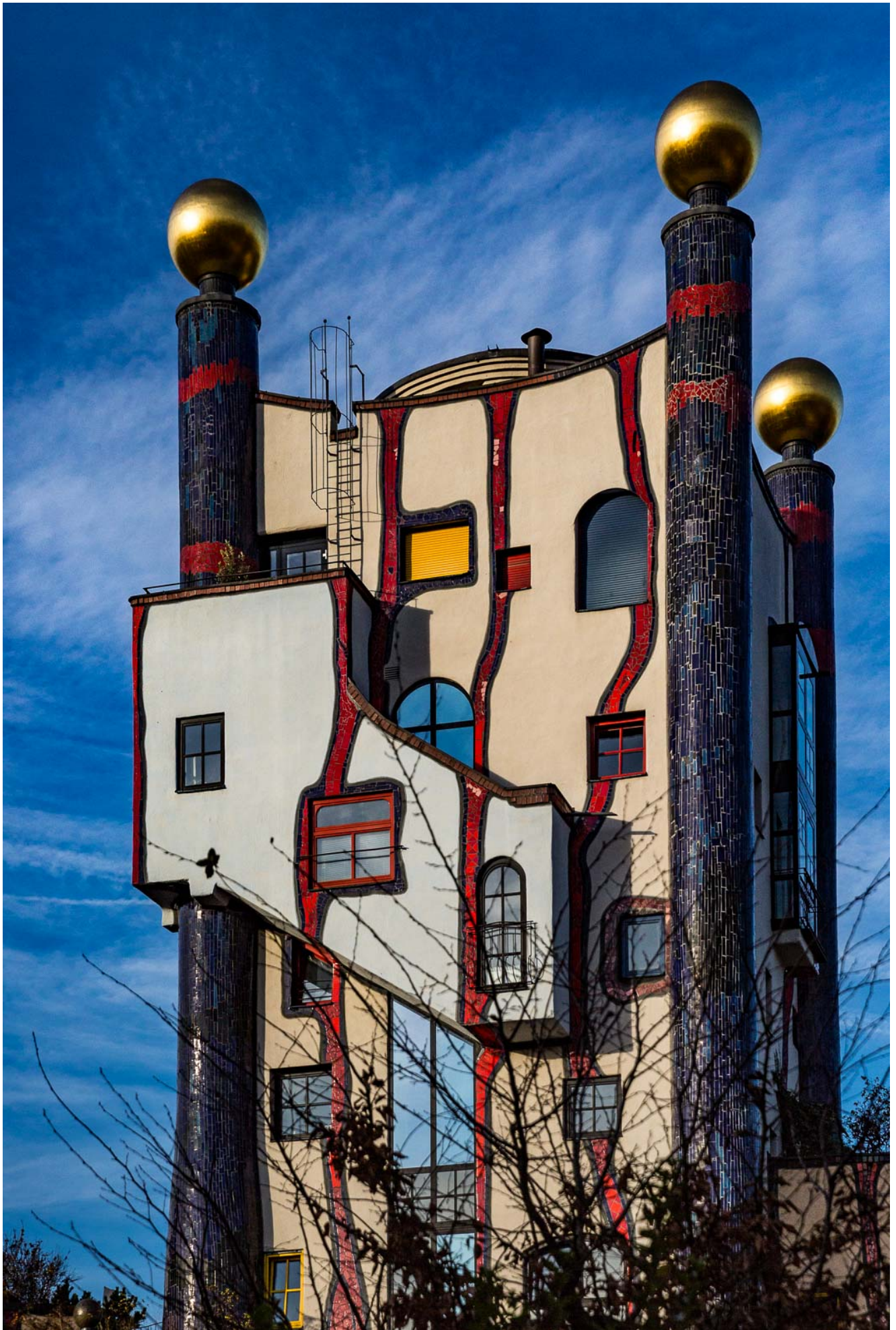
[Explore The Inventive Architecture of Friedensreich Hundertwasser – Google Arts & Culture](#)

www.kunsthauwien.com/en/

<https://hundertwasser.com/en>



**Hundertwasser House
by Studio Sarah Lou**



Hundertwasser's Beer Tower by [ALexDROP](#)

Hundertwasser Tower in Abensberg



Hundertwasser by [twicepix](#)



Usine d'incinération décorée par F. Hundertwasser (Vienne) by [dalbera](#)

Hundertwasser in Altenrhein. This video is not in English – you may wish to watch it silently and use the opportunity to talk as teacher.

Questions to Ask Children

What words would you use to describe Hundertwasser's architecture to those who can't see it?

How does it make you feel?

What would it be like to be inside the buildings?

What kinds of materials does he use?

How does he use colour in his buildings?

How important is the relationship of detail to big structures?

Can you see any straight lines?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Be an architect



[This is featured in the 'Be an Architect' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



Talking Points: Thinking About Architecture

A collection of imagery and sources designed to introduce the idea of architecture to primary aged children.

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AGES 5-8

AGES 9-11

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Thinking About Architecture

Use the following videos to introduce the idea of architecture to young children.

[Architecture According to Pigeons](#), Illustrated by Natsko Seki.

Imagine A World Without Architecture

Questions to Ask Children

What would birds see as they flew over the place you live in?

Which buildings would stand out?

Would they see patterns and shapes?

Can you imagine architecture from other perspectives? How would a dog see your local environment? How do YOU see your local environment?

This Talking Points Is Used

In...

Pathway: Be an architect

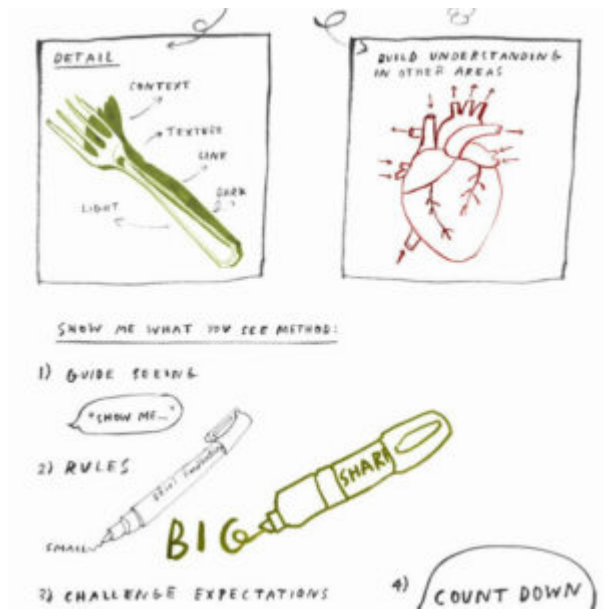


This is featured in the 'Be an Architect' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Dancing in Charcoal by SketchBetter

A collection of sources to explore "Dancing in Charcoal" by SketchBetter.

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Dancing in Charcoal

Inspired by the work of performance artist [Heather Hansen](#), the videos below share how [SketchBetter](#) worked with children in a school to enable their own charcoal dance performance.

Questions to Ask Children

How would making a drawing like this alone, in a pair, in a small group, or in a large class change the experience and outcome?

How would music change the nature of the marks made by the artists?

Can we tell a story through the movements of our body, which is reflected in the final drawing?

How might our individual bodies and the movements available to them change the experience and the outcome?

How far would a photograph of the finished drawing capture the “experience”.

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Gestural Drawing with charcoal



[This is featured in the 'Gestural Drawing with Charcoal' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Art as Performance – Heather Hansen

A collection of sources and imagery to explore the work of Heather Hansen.

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Heather Hansen

Heather Hansen is a performance artist based in

USA.

[Website](#)

Questions to Ask Children

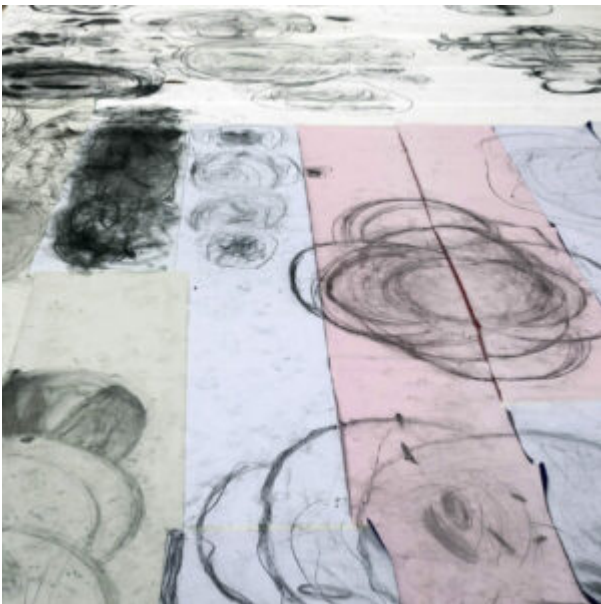
Discuss how the following words/ideas relate to Heather's work:

- Time
- Audience
- Drawing Material (i.e. graphite, charcoal)

How do you feel watching Heather's performance?

Heather makes her marks on very large sheets of paper, and on the beach. Where else could you make similar marks?

See the Talking Points Used in Schools...



**This Talking Points Is Used
In...**

Pathway: Gestural Drawing with charcoal



[This is featured in the 'Gestural Drawing with Charcoal' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Charcoal Drawings by Degas

A collection of imagery to explore work in charcoal by Edgar Degas.

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Charcoal Drawings by Edgar Degas



Seated Dancer, 1873–74

Edgar Degas. Charcoal, Graphite and Chalk on Pink Paper



**Violinist, Study for "The Dance Lesson" ca.
1878-79**

Edgar Degas. Charcoal and Graphite on Green Paper



Two Dancers ca. 1879 Edgar Degas. Charcoal and Chalk on Green Paper

Questions to Ask Children

Can you describe one of the artworks above? What kinds of words would you use to describe the drawing to a person who couldn't see it?

Degas often used coloured paper for his drawings. Why do you think he did this? What does it add to the drawings?

Degas often used two materials such as charcoal and chalk, or charcoal and graphite. Why do you think he did this? What does adding two or more drawing materials add to the drawing?

In some of Degas' drawings you can see a faint grid. Why do you think Degas used a grid?

Look at "Two Dancers" and this time look at the areas of the page where there is "no" drawing. How are these areas of the drawing as important as the areas with marks on?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Gestural Drawing with charcoal



[This is featured in the 'Gestural Drawing with Charcoal' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Laura McKendry

Introducing you to the work of artist Laura McKendry.

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Laura McKendry

Laura McKendry is an artist who lives and works in

London. She takes her inspiration from nature – plants, animals, insects...

In the video above Laura shares why she likes drawing dogs, and why she likes using charcoal to help her make big gestural drawings.

[Website](#)

Questions to Ask Children

Why do you think Laura likes to work in large scale when she uses charcoal?

Which words would you use to describe Laura's charcoal dogs?

What kinds of lines does she use?

Where does she move from when she draws? Her wrist? Her elbow? Her shoulder? Her whole body?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Gestural Drawing with charcoal



[This is featured in the 'Gestural Drawing with Charcoal' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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Talking Points: Shaheen Ahmed

A collection of imagery and sources designed to stimulate conversation around the work of Shaheen Ahmed.

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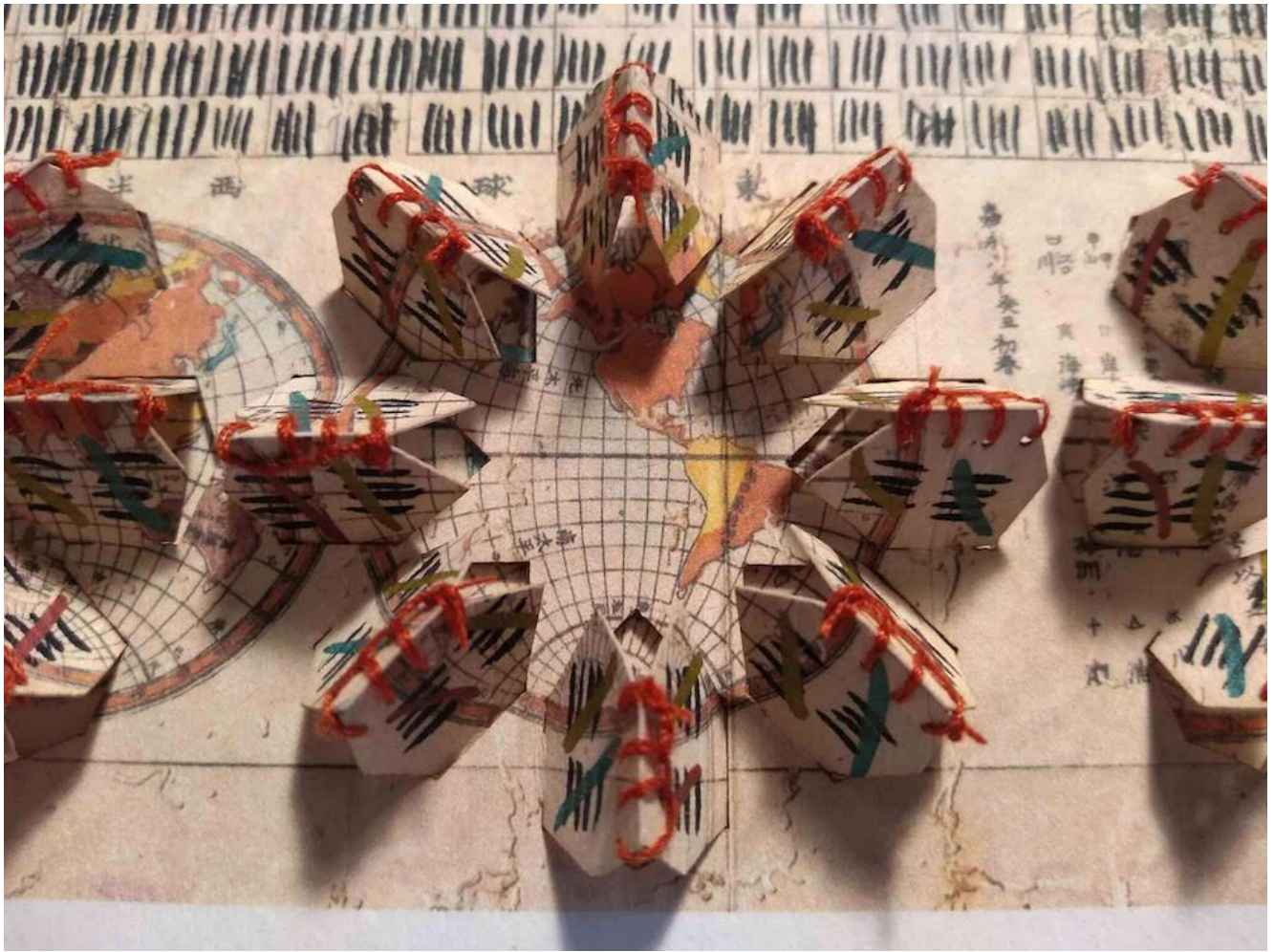
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Shaheen Ahmed



Primordial Sanctuary by Shaheen Ahmed

"When countries are at war, when people are suffering, that is the time to reach out. The very least we should do is empathise."

"Craftivist" Shaheen Ahmed lives and works in the West Midlands where she manipulates maps and paper using Kirigami to connect her passion for Islamic art, and exploration of social justice.

The concept of empathy is central to Shaheen's work. Her manipulation of maps, over-writing with pattern and marks, is Shaheen's way of commenting upon and mending the destruction and fear caused

by boundaries and borders. The meditative actions she performs become Shaheen's blessings outwards for a better world.

[Linktree](#)

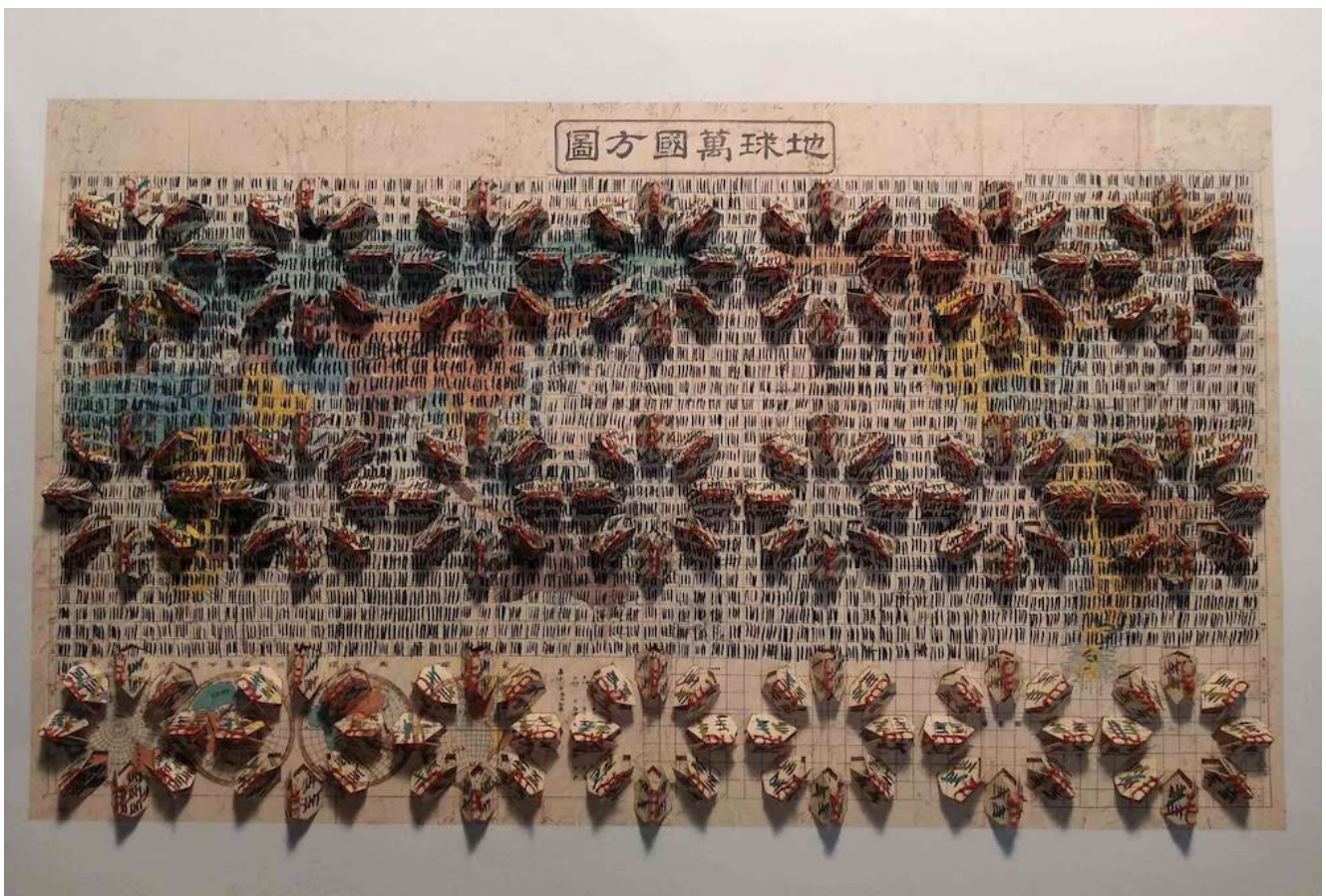
www.shaheenahmed.com/

[Q&A with Shaheen Ahmed by New Art West Midlands](#)

[Mapping Empathy by Shaheen Ahmed](#)

[Craft Council Exhibition](#)

[Instagram](#)



Primordial Sanctuary by Shaheen Ahmed



Persia by Shaheen Ahmed

Questions to Ask Children

Look carefully at Shaheen's artwork. How would you describe it to someone who couldn't see it?

Do you think the processes Shaheen uses and the final outcome contribute to Shaheen's wellbeing?

How do you feel when you look at the artwork? Are you thinking about the painstaking processes Shaheen uses, or the final outcome? Or are you thinking about the people in the places she makes art about? Or something else?

Shaheen describes herself as a “Craftivist”. What do you think that means?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Exploring pattern



[This is featured in the 'Exploring Pattern' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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