

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.

Making and Drawing Birds

**creating decorative designs from birds:
markmaking, texture and pattern**



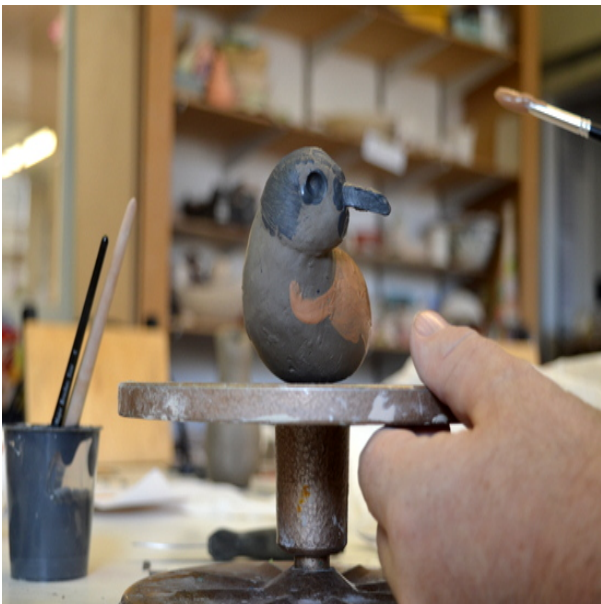
In the Company of Birds



nest



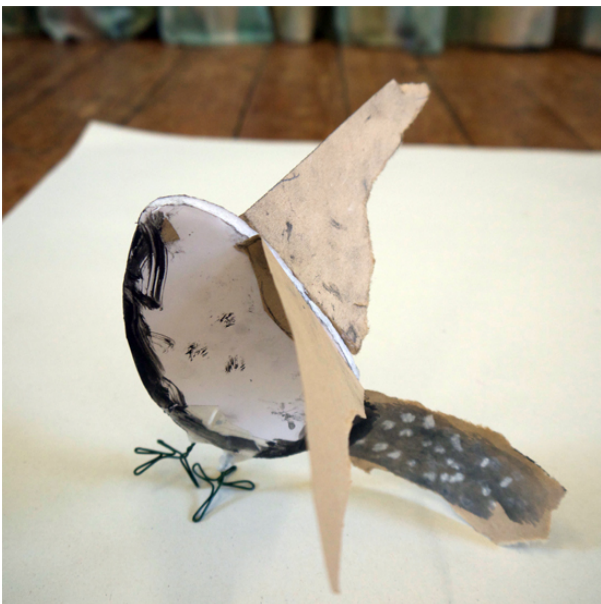
Rowan: Making a Clay Bird from a Mould



dragons and birds in eggs: hidden and revealed



making birds! sculptural ideas for primary schools



Sculptural Birds in Flight by Teenage Makers



rook: transforming materials



**Printing at Battyford Primary, Inspired
by Hester Cox**



‘Flock’ at Prospect House School, Inspired by Veronica Lindsay-Addy



book transformation: flock of birds



drawing birds with mixed media: creating effects with oil pastels, crayons and ink washes



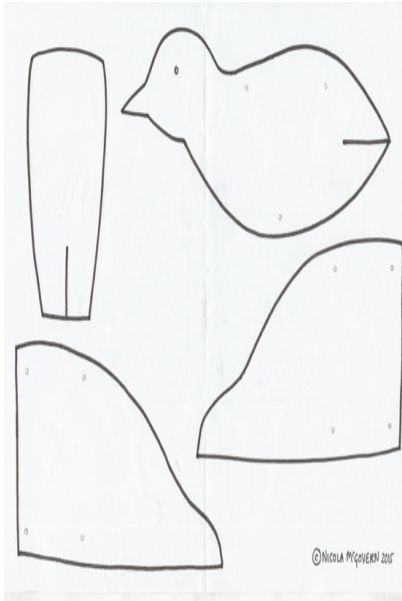
‘Dawn Chorus’ by Marcus Coates



Colourful Sculptural Birds by Pupils at Donhead Preparatory School



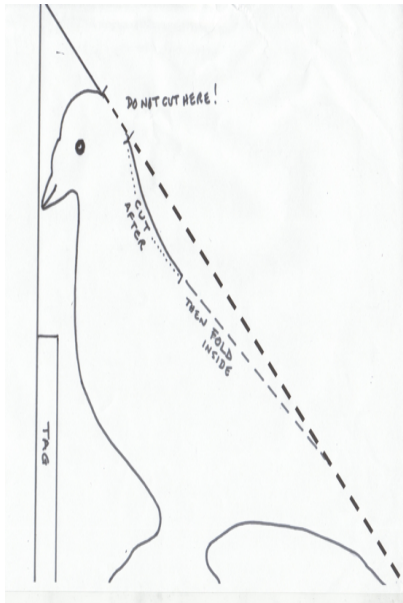
Priscilla the Puffin: Make a Simple Bird Mobile



How to Make a Simple Origami Bird by Melanie Johns



Paper Pidgeon Project



‘Birds in the Trees’ by Pupils at Battyeford Primary School



Brave Young Makers: Year Three Pupils at Ridgfield Primary Transform materials into Birds and Insects



making modroc sculpture



cantus articus (Concerto for birds and orchestra) Op.61: Images Inspired by Music



Perseverance, Determination and Inventiveness: Building Nests



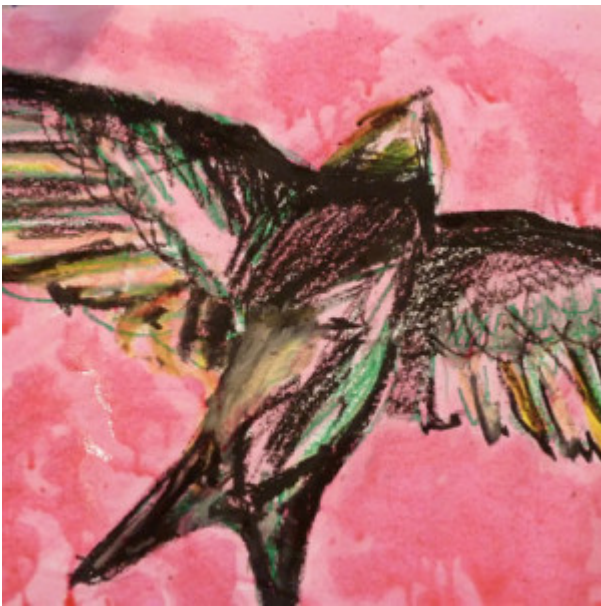
Pattern and Collage: A Whole

School Workshop at Monkfield Primary School

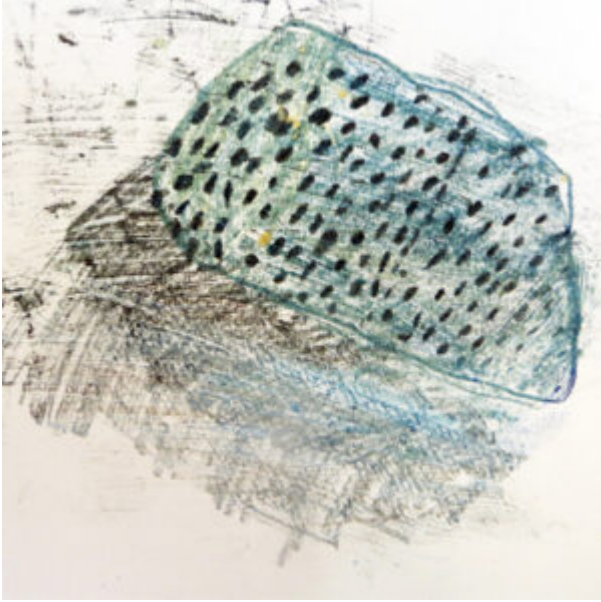
Dragons & Birds in Eggs: Hidden and Revealed

You May Also Like...

Visual Arts Planning Collections: Birds



monoprinting with carbon copy paper



**Recording & Communicating
through Narrative with Degree
Level Contemporary Craft
Students by Vanessa Marr**

**Inspired by Google Earth:
Drawing**

Flat Yet Sculptural? Drawing, Collage, Construction

Following on from using the grid method to scale up simple drawings, children worked on collage and construction to transform their drawings into sculptures.

Exploring Three Dimensions with Lego: Drawing and Collage

You May Also Like...

Pathway: Exploring Form Through Drawing



[This is featured in the 'Exploring Form Through Drawing' pathway](#)

Adapting AccessArt: From 2D to 3D



Using Negative Space to Believe What You See (& Scaling Up)

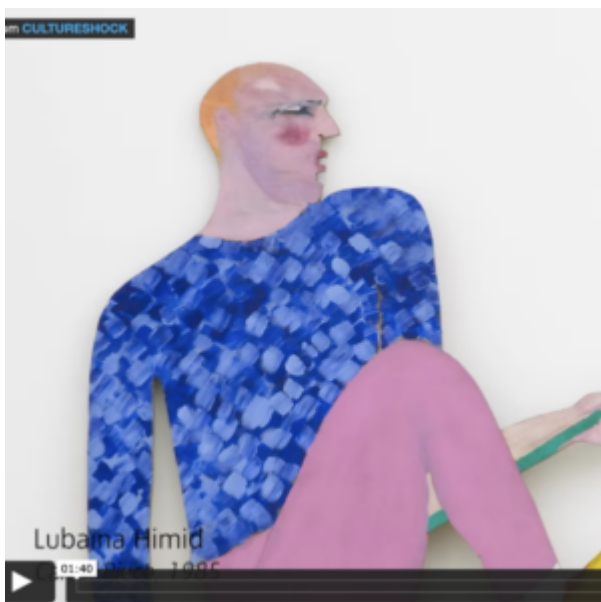
You May Also Like...

Pathway: 2D Drawing to 3D Making



[This is featured in the '2D Drawing to 3D Making' pathway](#)

Talking Points: Lubaina Himid



The Drawing Machine – A Workshop in Perspective and How to Look by Drawing Machine and Sarah Wright

Drawing as Support Activity

Detached and Timeless Painting Workshop by Sara Dudman

Making an Urban Landscape Painting by James Nairne

Making Drawings using a Lightbox

Painting on Glass

Making Sensory Drawings by Gillian Adair McFarland

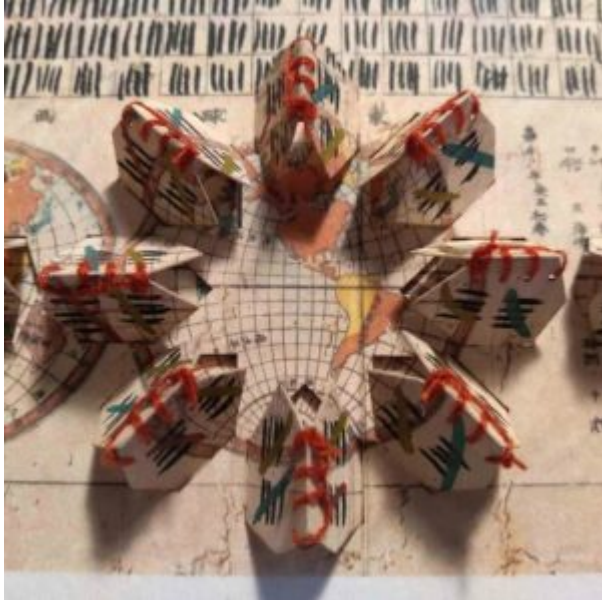
You May Also Like...

Pathway: Exploring pattern



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

Talking points: Shaheen Ahmed



talking points: Louise Despont



Creating and Drawing an Art Installation

Nest

See This Resource Used in Schools...







You May Also Like...

**Pathway: Sculpture, Structure,
Inventiveness & determination**



This is featured in the 'Sculpture, Structure, Inventiveness & Determination' pathway

Talking Points: What can we learn from birds



Drawing source material: nests



Drawing Hands

You May Also Like...

Pathway: Exploring Form Through Drawing

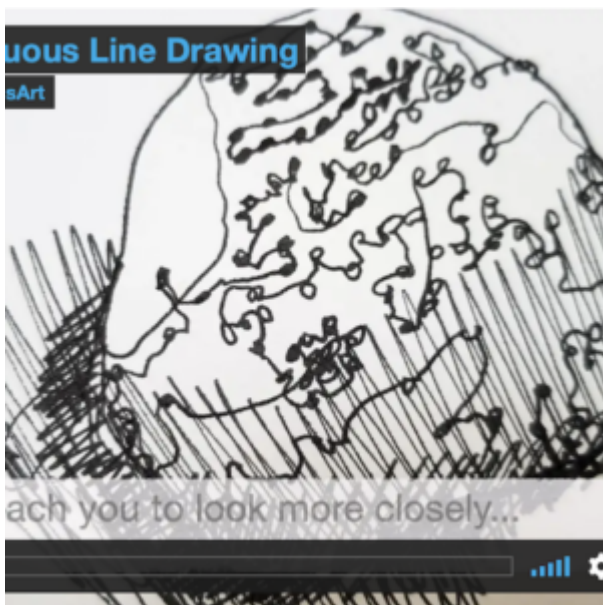


[This is featured in the 'Exploring Form Through Drawing' pathway](#)

Drawing Like a Caveman – Handprint Art



Continuous Line Drawings



In-Depth Drawing Experience for Teenagers by Betsy Dadd