

Foreshortened Sketches

[AccessArt Young Artist Rowan Briggs Smith](#) shares her self portrait sketches exploring foreshortening.

I've been enjoying life drawing at the [Royal Drawing School](#), but outside those sessions I started taking photographs of myself as source material for quick pencil sketches. The setup was easy - just using my phone on its timer and a tripod. I just wanted to capture quick images in which a part of my body was particularly foreshortened, so that I could challenge myself to draw what I saw (it's always tempting for the brain to draw what it thinks it should be seeing), and to try capture something of the "feel" of the pose. In addition it was the end of a long busy term and I wanted the source images/drawings to capture snapshot emotions relating to how I felt.

Whilst nothing really matches drawing from life, I think drawing from photographic images does give you the opportunity to explore how images at their simplest level are made up of flat shapes which work together to help create patterns the eye can understand. I like the way that when you work from photographs you become practised at seeing these shapes as they really are (in an abstract sense) and I think that is a skill you can then take back to the life room. The really important thing is to keep the eye moving between paper and subject matter so that you are continually assessing the marks you make, and not to just look at your drawing which is easy to do!

The images below were made on A4 Fabriano paper with soft pencils. I didn't want to overwork the images so each one took between 20 minutes and half an hour.











[Instagram: rowanbriggssmith_](#)

Sign up below to receive email updates from AccessArt. AccessArt promises not to share your information with anyone else

and you can unsubscribe at any time!

[si-contact-form form='35']

This is a sample of a resource created by UK Charity AccessArt. We have over 1500 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.

Join AccessArt from only £3.50 per month and enjoy full access to hundreds more resources!

[Join Us!](#)

Cupid and Psyche: How a Fifteenth-Century Renaissance Panel Became the Most Loved Painting in Cambridgeshire

Sheila Ceccarelli tells the story of how Cupid and Psyche, painted by Jacopo Del Sellaio, an Italian Renaissance artist, came to become the most loved painting in Cambridgeshire. Inspire is an exhibition of art made by primary school children and celebrates the creativity of our local schools. It champions the on-going importance of cultural learning and the visual arts for children and young people. A chance also to see Del Sellaio's Cupid and Psyche on display next to the children's work.

The Story of Cupid and Psyche by Jacopo del Sellaio (1442 – 1493)

In this post, Kate Noble, Education Officer at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge shares the story of Cupid and Psyche as depicted in the 15th Century painting by Jacopo Del Sellaio. This is one of a series of posts from Inspire: A Celebration of Children's Art at the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge.

Decorative Clay Coil Pots

Artist educator Sharon Gale working with KS1 & KS2 students at the Weston Park Art Club shares a clay pot making resource: “This is not the traditional way of making coil pots but it’s lots of fun and by using different paint effects, the end results can be very interesting. We worked on this project for two, two hour sessions”.

Burton Hathow Ducklings

Newly hatched ducklings are the inspiration for a collection of paintings by Years 2 and 3 at Burton Hathow Preparatory School. Head of Art, Rachel Burch shares the activity.

David Parr House – “What’s Your Space?”

In celebration of the opening of David Parr House in Cambridge, this resource aims to inspire children aged 8 to 12 to explore design.

Painting A Rainbow Forest

Rachel Burch, Head of Art at Burton Hathow Preparatory School and her pupils paint their own large scale, colourful forest inspired by AccessArt's resource 'Painting A Bluebell Forest'. Rachel shares her process in this resource.

Inspire 2020: Teachers

This post is based on CPD (Continued Professional Development) sessions in February and March 2019, hosted and delivered by the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge in collaboration with AccessArt, for Cambridgeshire teachers participating in Inspire 2020 Project.

'Meet and Make' Teacher CPD Event and Resource Share

See how teachers, museum educators, the local scrap store and arts organisations were brought together for a making session inspired by Brilliant Makers at Arbury Primary School, Cambridge with year three teacher Eilis Hanson.

Simple Animation: Making a Flick Book

Flick books are a great way to make simple animations.

Nursery Night Time Collage

Inspired by the AccessArt Village, artist Rachel Thompson works with pre-school aged children in St Matthew's Nursery School, Cambridge to make their very own night time scenes with collage and wax-resist.

Making the Gift of Home this Winter

The AccessArt Village in the Ruskin Gallery, Cambridge and how to celebrate community, creativity and home.

Making A Creative Response –

Physical to Aural

As part of the teenage #BeACreativeProducer Project, we have been exploring how we can trust and use “instinct” in relation to finding starting points to generate ideas and enable creativity. In this post, AccessArt Young Artist Alex Tunstall shares what happened when he received a “box” of physical stimuli to inspire an aural response.

Drawing in the Dark: Developing a Visual Language

Spotting Potential and Nurturing a Young Talent

You May Also Like...

Visual Arts Planning Collections:
Portraits



Assessment & Progression



Three Approaches to Drawing

Melissa Pierce Murray proposes three approaches to challenge habitual ways of drawing by expanding the repertoire of marks and approaches.

Modelling The Head in Clay – by Melissa Pierce Murray

Use Scrapstores!

Modelling the Head in Clay Part 1 – Armature

Making a Steel or Wood Armature is the first in a series of f resources showing how teenagers modelled a clay head over the course of a term.

Messages From Creative Adults: Focussing on Art as a Career