

Talking Points: Marela Zacarías

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

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AGES 5-8

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AGES 14-16

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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

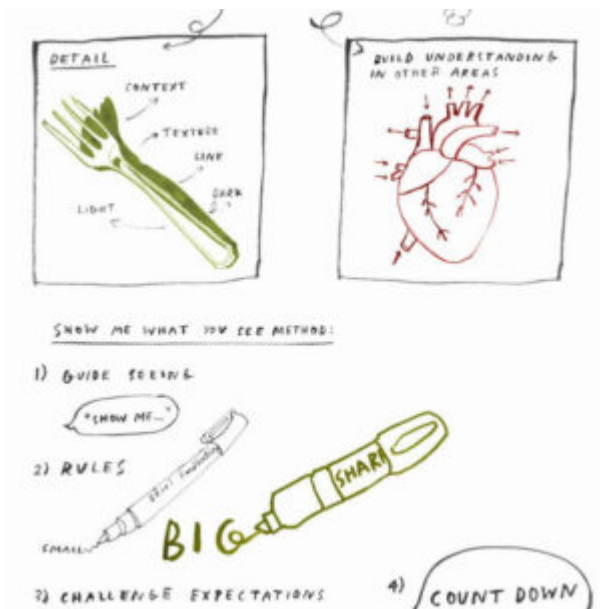


This is featured in the 'Expressive Painting' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



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

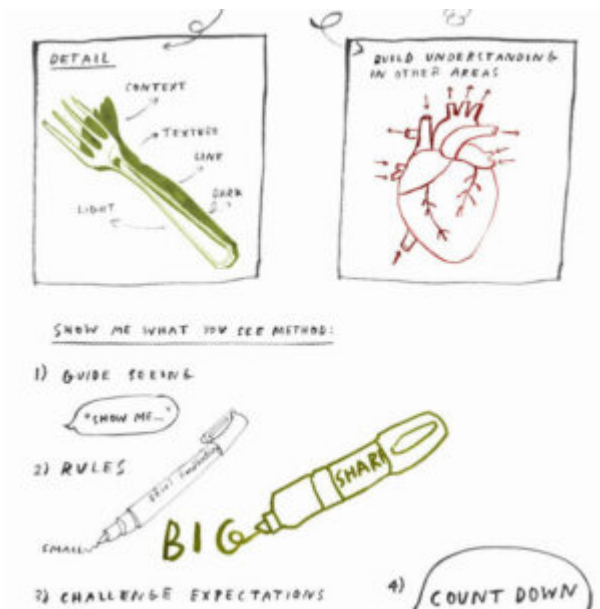


This is featured in the 'Working with Shape and Colour' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



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

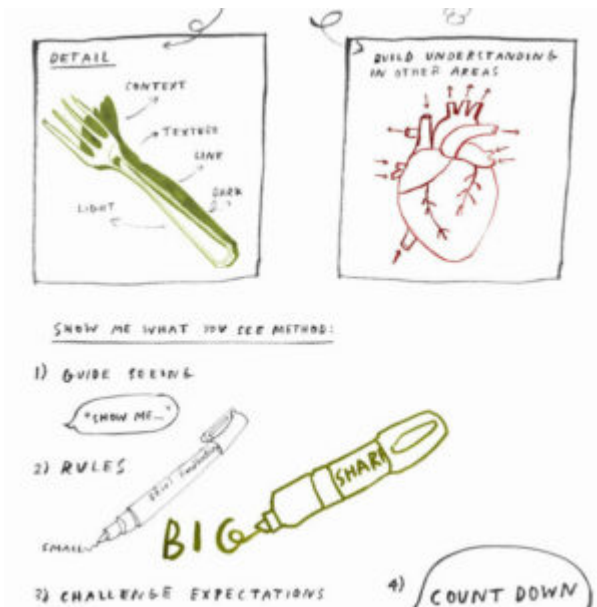


[This is featured in the 'Making Monotypes' pathway](#)

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



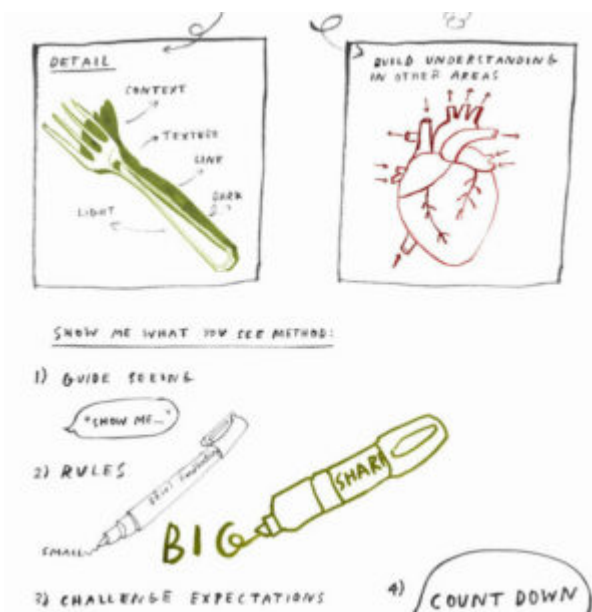
[This is featured in the 'Print &](#)

Activism' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



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 ←

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

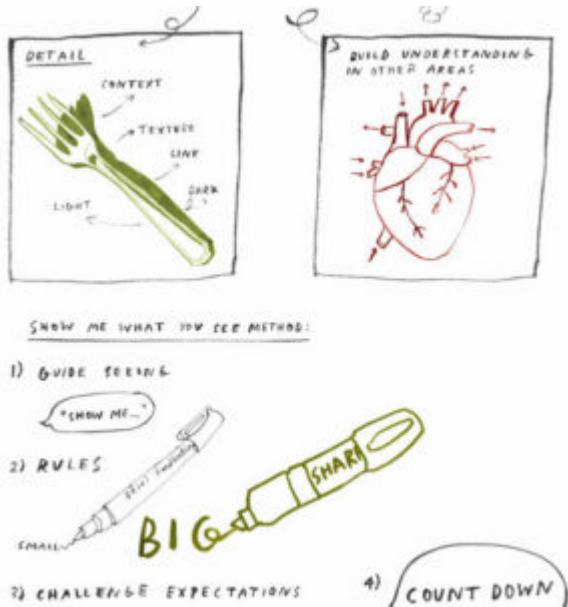


This is featured in the 'Print & Activism' pathway

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

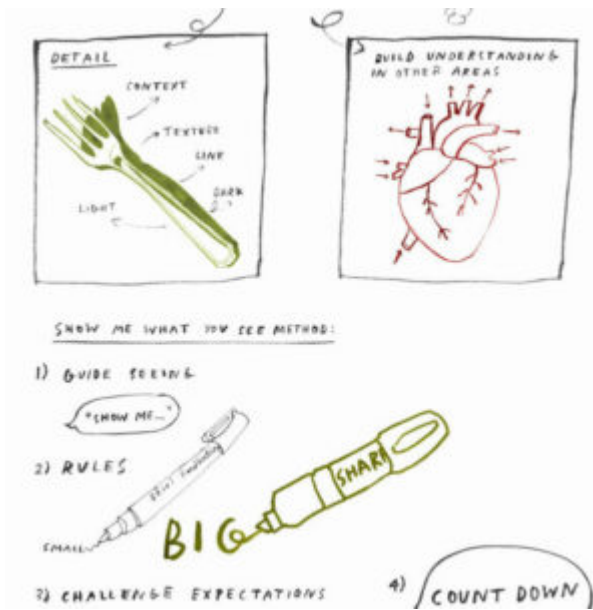


[This is featured in the 'Typography and Maps' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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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

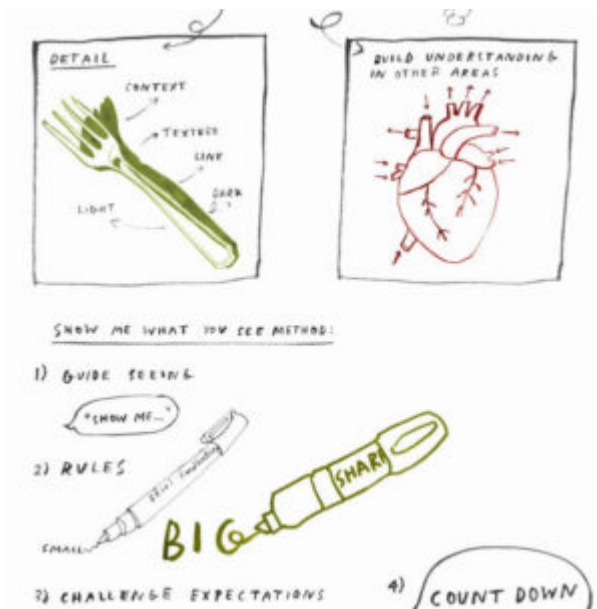


This is featured in the 'Typography and Maps' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



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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

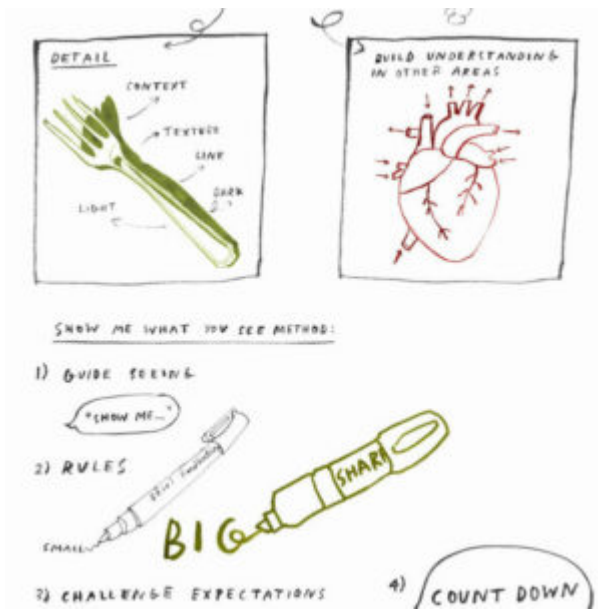


[This is featured in the 'Typography and Maps' pathway](#)

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](#).

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Typography and Maps

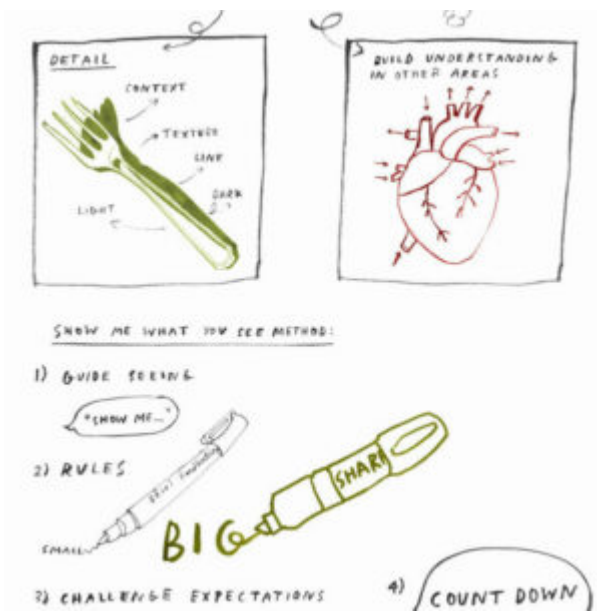


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Talking Points: Bridge Design

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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

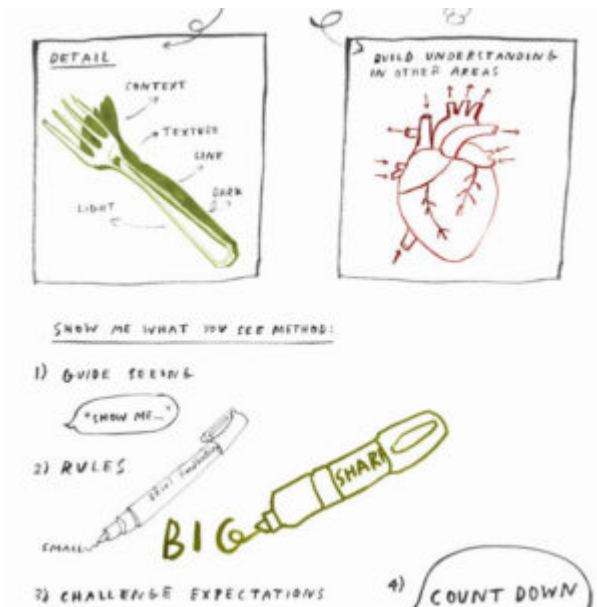


[This is featured in the 'Be an Architect' pathway](#)

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](#)

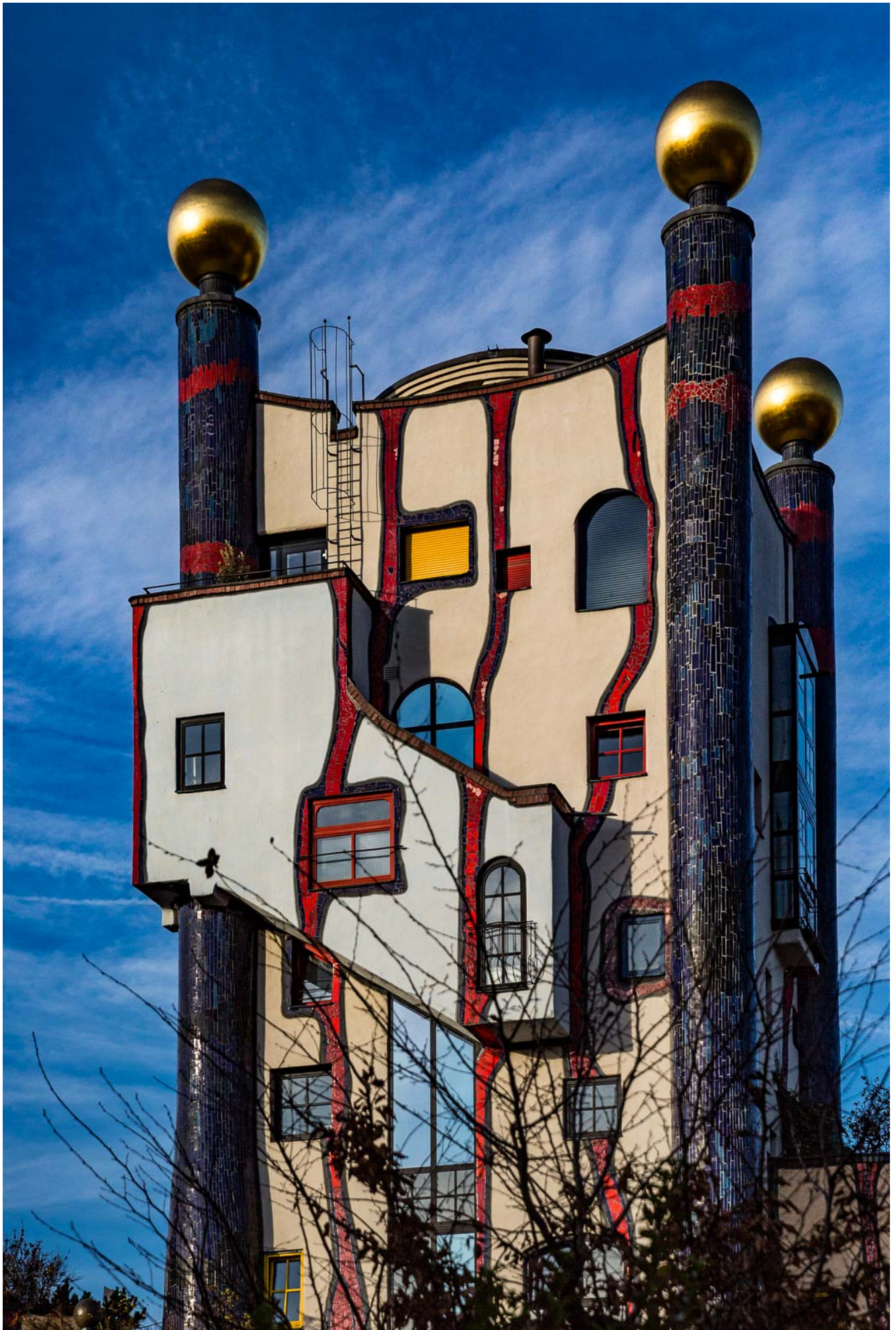
[Explore The Inventive Architecture of Friedensreich Hundertwasser – Google Arts & Culture](#)

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

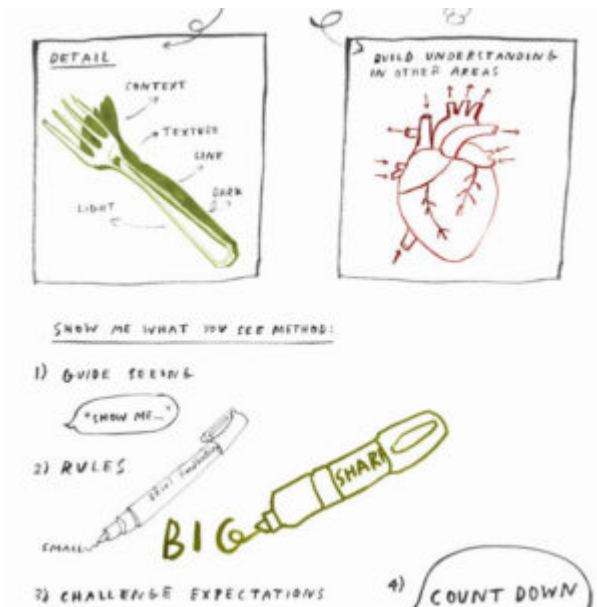


[This is featured in the 'Be an Architect' pathway](#)

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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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

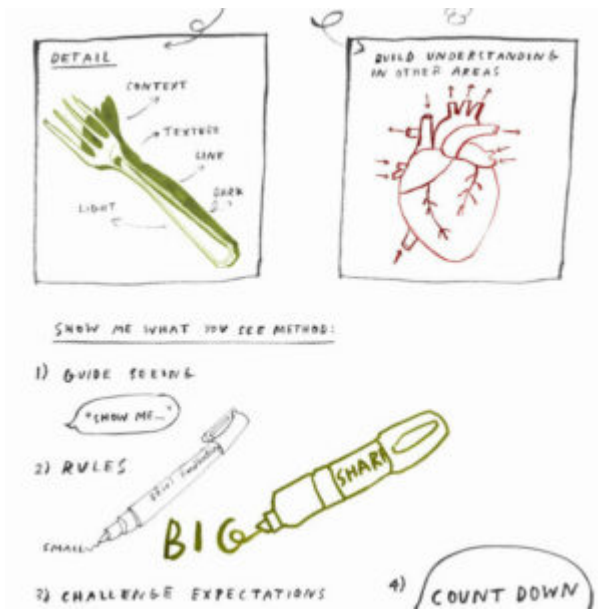


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Talking Points: Dancing in Charcoal by SketchBetter

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”.

You May Also Like...

Pathway: Gestural Drawing with charcoal



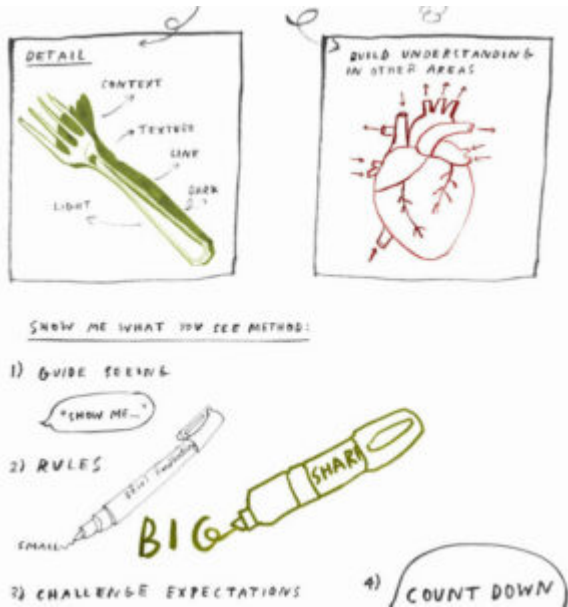
[This is featured in the 'Gestural Drawing with Charcoal' pathway](#)

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



[Find out how pupils can respond to artists work in sketchbooks](#)

Show me what you see



[Enable close looking and drawing with this exercise](#)

Talking Points: Art as Performance – Heather Hansen

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

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FREE TO ACCESS

Heather Hansen

Heather Hansen is a performance artist based in USA.

[Website](#)

Questions to Ask Children

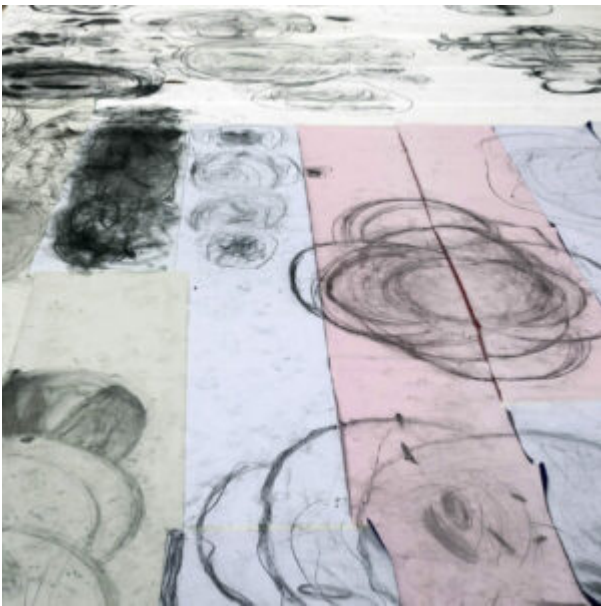
Discuss how the following words/ideas relate to Heather's work:

- 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

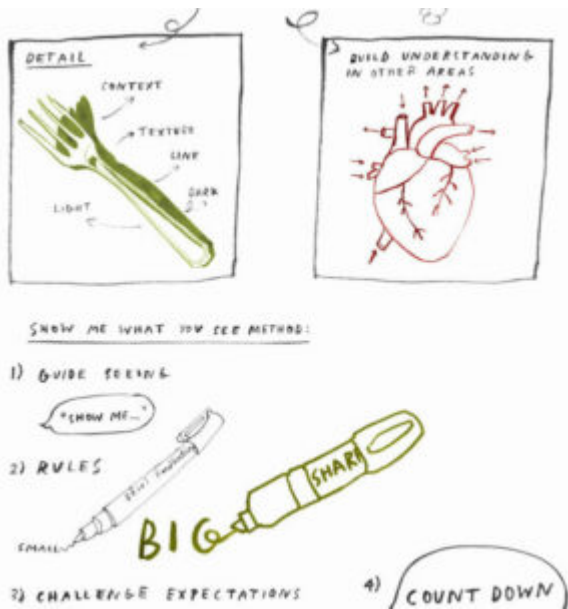


[This is featured in the 'Gestural Drawing with Charcoal' pathway](#)

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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AGES 5-8

AGES 9-11

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AGES 14-16

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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

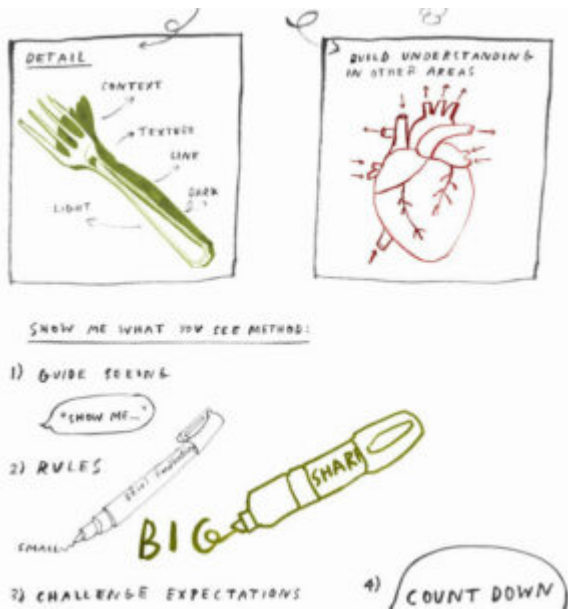


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Talking Points: Laura McKendry

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

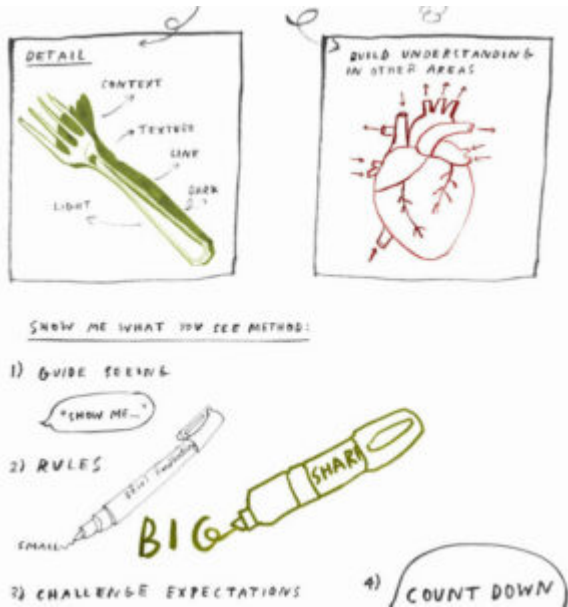


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Talking Points: Shaheen Ahmed

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

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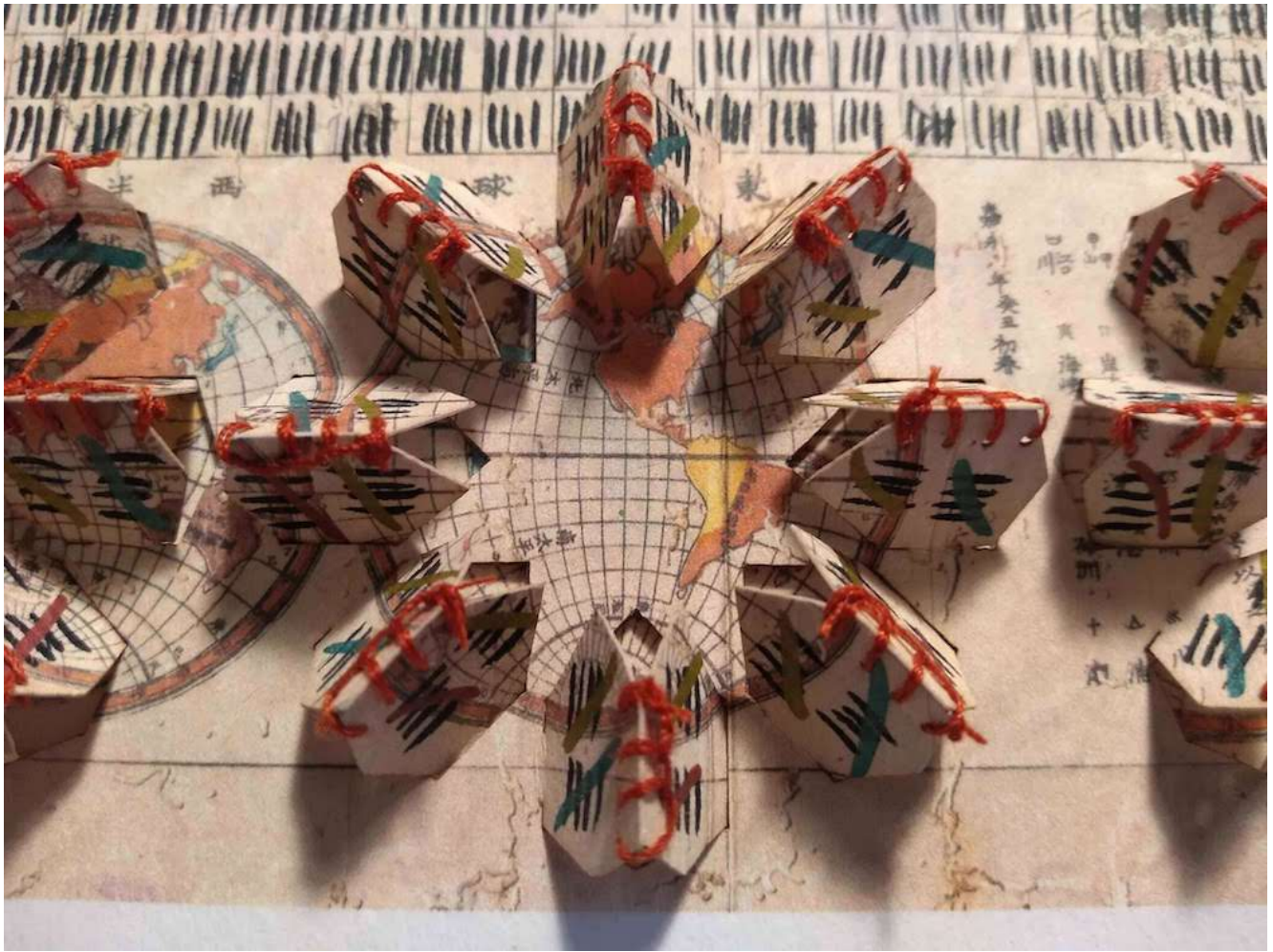
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AGES 11-14

AGES 14-16

FREE TO ACCESS

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](#)

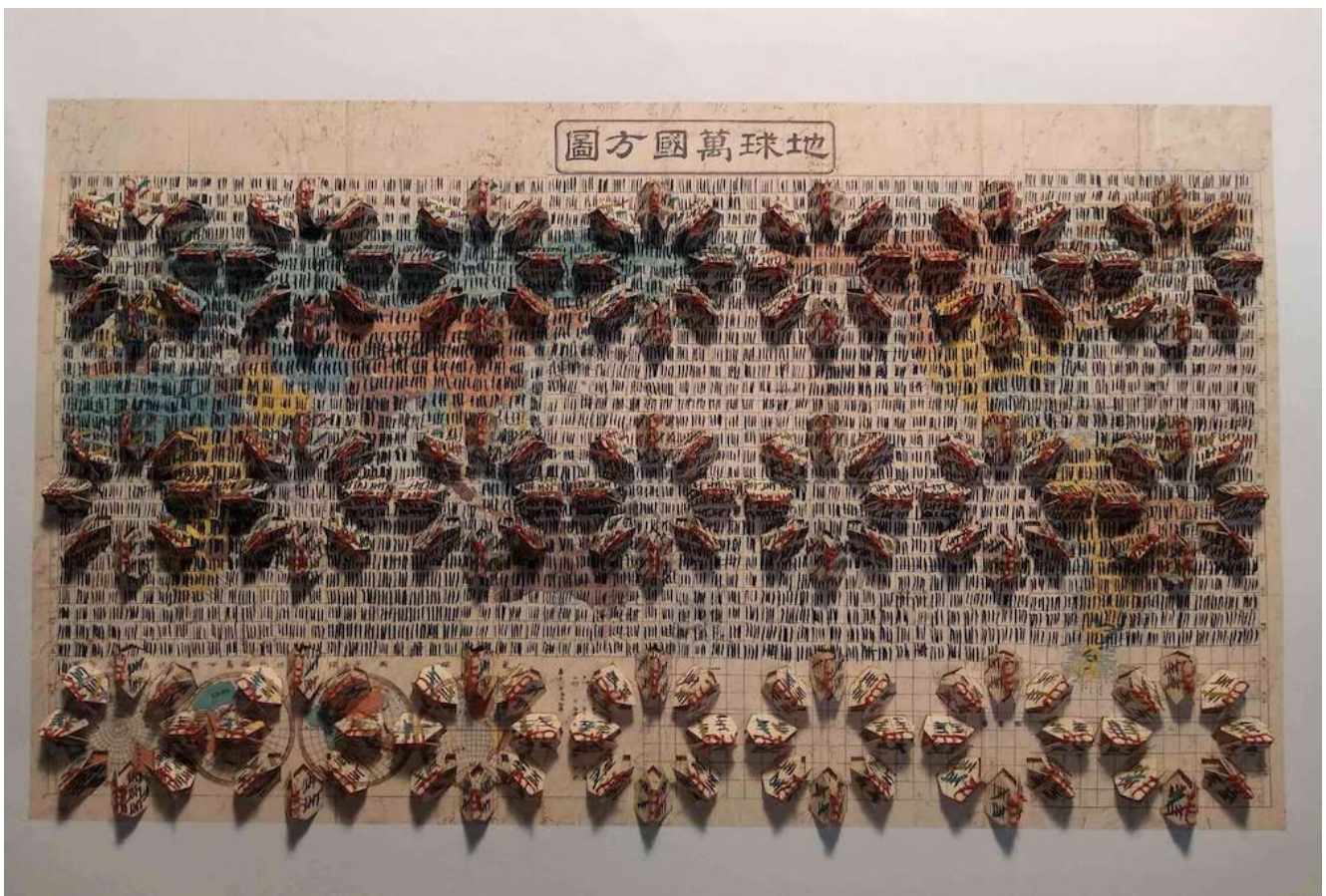
www.shaheenahmed.com/

[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

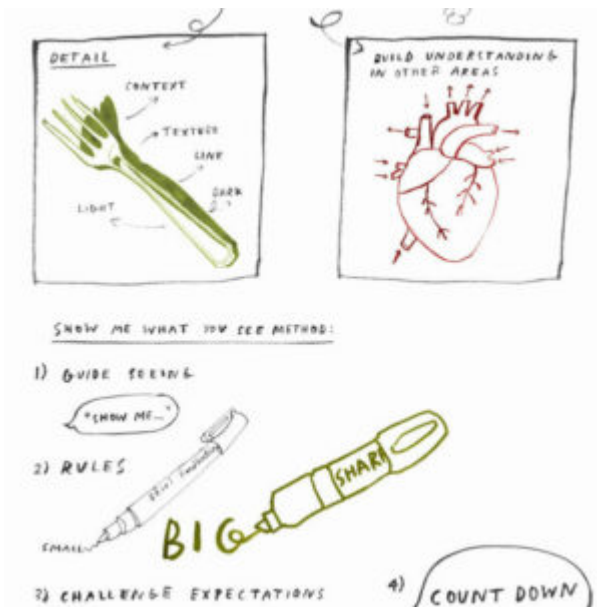


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Talking Points: Andy Gilmore

A collection of imagery and sources

designed to stimulate conversation around the work of Andy Gilmore.

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FREE TO ACCESS

Andy Gilmore

“A master of colour and geometric composition, Andy Gilmore’s work is often characterised as kaleidoscopic and hypnotic, though it could just as well be described as visually acoustic, his often complex arrangements referencing the scales and melodies in music.”

<http://agilmore.com/>

[Instagram](#)

Questions to Ask Children

Choose one of Andy’s pieces of art. Can you describe what you see?

How do you feel when you look at Andy’s work?

Andy’s work appears in newspapers and magazines, record covers and in advertising. Why do you think Andy’s work is used this way?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Exploring pattern

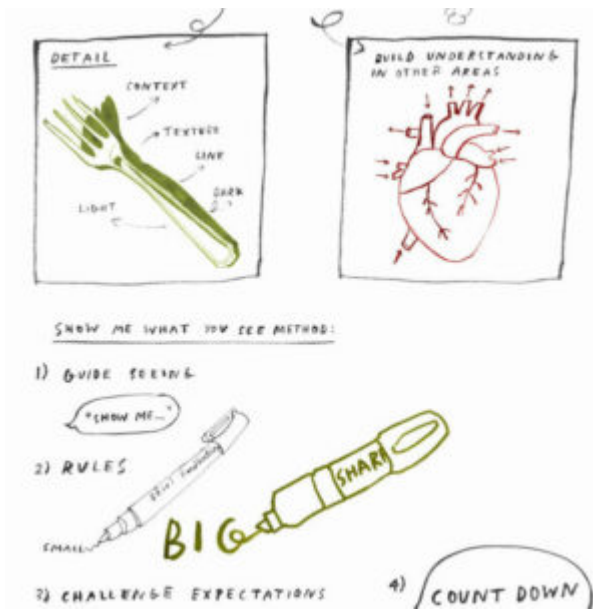


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Talking Points: Louise Despont

A collection of imagery and sources designed to stimulate conversation around the work of Louise Despont.

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Louise Despont

“[In drawing] the downshift in speed is what opened the door for information and inspiration to step through”

Louise Despont is an artist whose practice focuses on drawing. Her works comprise of detailed geometric drawings which evolve organically. The making of the artwork, and the outcomes, are powerful, meditative and mindful.

She lives in USA and Bali.

www.louisedespont.com/

[Nicelle Beauchene Gallery](#)

Apologies if you cannot watch the videos below if YouTube is blocked in your school. The videos do not appear on other platforms, but we thought they were worth including. Pls ask your school IT to see if they can whitelist these videos.

In the videos below, Louise describes how art and life are intrinsically linked.

For younger children: As teacher we think you will enjoy all the videos. Pls select sections to show your own class.

“Drawing has taught me to see, and it has taught me a quality of attention unparalleled to most

other states of mind."

In the TedTalk below, Louise Despont shares why she thinks drawing is so important both to herself and to us all as human beings.

TED Ideas worth spreading

WATCH



TEDxUbud • October 2019 | 6.9K views

Like (207) Share Add

Thinking with our hands: a story of drawing

Louise Despont

A talk about how ideas flow from the brain and into the hands of an artist, and why we should all be using our hands more to create. Louise Despont touches on what the loss of handwriting might mean for us all, how to cultivate a creative practice, and shares how her detailed drawing process has evolved. In this age of digital creation, Louise is definitely an outlier as she works with her hands and often her whole body to create her drawings. She prefers to draw on ledger paper with pre-existing lines, resulting in an almost devotional object comprised of dense colors and shapes.

How and where Louise finds inspiration...

Questions to Ask Children

Do you think Louise has a clear idea of the outcome before she starts each piece?

**How long do you imagine she works on each piece?
How does she know when a piece is finished? Is a**

piece ever finished?

How do the drawings make you feel?

How would it feel to make drawings like that?

Louise gives advice:

- Look at your work upside down for a new perspective.
- Reorganise your pages to see if there isn't an entirely different story inside the one you had.

What do you think she means by this advice, and can you apply it to your own work?

Look around you. Could you begin to collect images or objects, using your instinct, that you are attracted to. Could you use them as a starting point to draw? What tools could you use to help you draw?

This Talking Points Is Used In...

Pathway: Exploring pattern

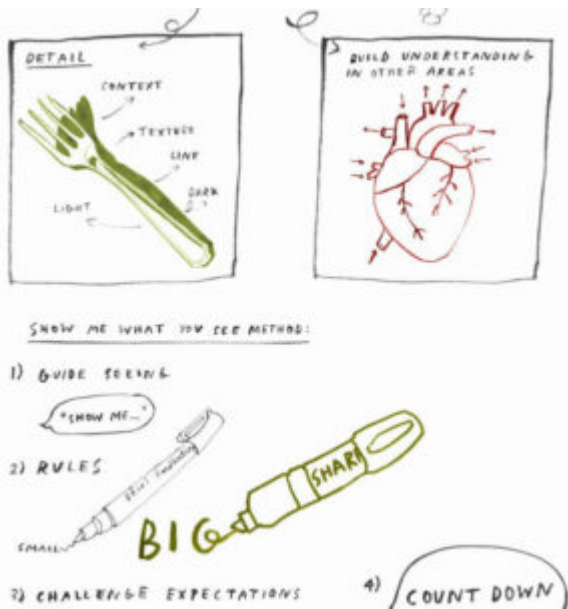


This is featured in the 'Exploring Pattern' pathway

using sketchbooks to make visual notes



Show me what you see



Talking Points: What is Typography?

Videos and activities to help you explore Typography.

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FREE TO ACCESS

What is Typography?

Typography is the art of creating and arranging letters in a way which is visually appealing and which makes the letters legible.

The videos below explore different aspects of typography.

A Introduction to Typography...

Questions to Ask Children

Did you expect to see the artwork at the end? Was it a surprise?

How much practise do you think this took?

Do you think Pramod made lots of mistakes along the way? How much would he have learnt from his mistakes?

Questions to Ask Children

How do you feel when you watch the videos?

What could you make letters out of?

Can you ever guess how the next letters might be made?

What is Kinetic Typography?

Kinetic Typography is the technical name for "moving text".

Questions to Ask Children

What do you think the designers are trying to say through the font they use?

Questions to Ask Children

How do you feel when you watch the videos?

Can you think of other examples you have seen of kinetic typography?

Logos

Logos can tell you a lot about what a brand is about and what it does. Next time you see a Logo, consider the message behind it.

Questions to Ask Children

What is Disney trying to convey through the Disney font/logo?

In the animation what do you think the designers are trying to convey with the typography?

Resources which Explore Typography

Cut out Typography



Typography for Children



Making an illustrated Alphabet



is for Lobster

Making a Monogram



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

Pathway: Typography and Maps

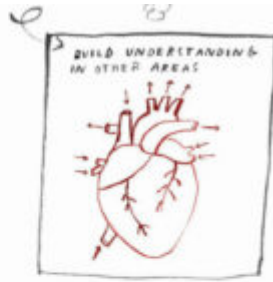
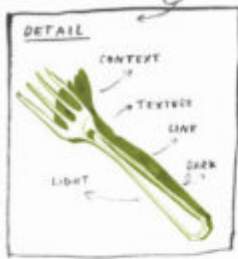


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SHOW ME WHAT YOU SEE METHODS:

1) GUIDE FORMS



2) RULES



3) CHALLENGE EXPECTATIONS

