# Local Artists Workshop

This workshop is designed to help pupils to explore the fine art collection of Learnington Spa Art Gallery & Museum, focusing on some key local artists and their techniques.

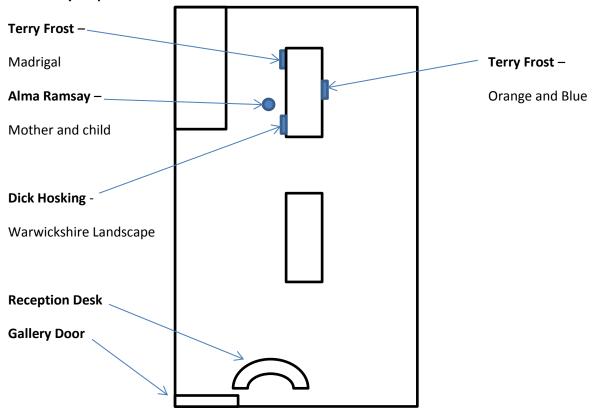
### **Curriculum Points**

- to use drawing, painting and sculpture to develop and share their ideas, experiences and imagination
- to develop a wide range of art and design techniques in using colour, pattern, texture, line, shape, form and space
- to learn about the work of a range of artists, craft makers and designers, describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines, and making links to their own work.

### **Materials provided**

- Clipboards
- Worksheets
- Favourite Artwork sheets
- Pencils
- Colour pencils
- Rubbers
- Box of textures

#### Art Gallery Map



## Terry Frost – Orange and Blue (10 minutes)

Some key facts about Terry Frost:

- Terry Frost was born in Learnington in 1915, 100 years ago. He left school at 14 and then joined the army in 1939 when World War 2 began, aged 24.
- He is a painter, best known for acrylic paintings, watercolours and collages.
- He donated 31 of his artworks to this gallery in 2003.
- This painting is called Orange and Blue. You can see these colours very clearly in the painting. However, the painting is not only showing these colours.

Question: What else do you think this is a painting of? Use your imagination!

- (The painting is of the harbour at St. Ives, a boat and the sea, in abstract Terry is showing the movement of the boat with simple colours and shapes)
- Terry Frost used a mixture of imagination and memory to paint this picture.
- Can you see all the different basic colours and shapes he has used?

Action: Draw pictures of all the different shapes can you see.

## Terry Frost – Madrigal (10 minutes)

This painting was also painted by Terry Frost.

# Question: How is this painting different from the one we just looked at?

- (The last painting was quite playful and colourful. This one is much darker and has lots of the same repeated shapes.)
- It is called *Madrigal*. A madrigal is a song that was sung 500 years ago and would have from two to eight people singing the different parts.
- The painting was inspired by the poem *Madrigal*, by W H Auden:

O lurcher-loving collier, black as night, (The poem is about a miner who I covered in coal dust) Follow your love across the smokeless hill; (He is going home to see his wife) Your lamp is out, the cages are all still; (He has finished working in the mine for the day) Course for heart and do not miss, For Sunday soon is past and, Kate, fly not so fast, (Kate is his wife) For Monday comes when none may kiss: Be marble to his soot, and to his black be white.

• Terry shows the rhythm of the poem with his repeating shapes. You might see the black night, the coal miner covered in dust, and the red heart.

## Question: What emotions do these colours remind you of?

Action: Think of some describing words for the painting.





### Dick Hosking – Warwickshire Landscape (10 minutes)

Some key facts about Dick Hosking:

- Dick Hosking was an artist who lived in Warwickshire and loved the landscape and nature.
- He was born in 1904 and he married Alma Ramsey, the next artist that we are going to look at!
- He uses lots of textures in his paintings to show the different textures that you can find in nature.

## Question: How is this different to Terry Frost's painting?

• (They use similar dark colours but Dick Hosking has painted something that we can recognise and that he probably saw every day, whereas Terry Frost painted his from his imagination.)

### Action: Using the objects in the texture box, create rubbings on your worksheet.

#### Alma Ramsey – Sculpture (10 minutes)

Some key facts about Alma Ramsey:

- Alma Ramsey was born in 1907 and in 1948 she moved to live in Warwick.
- She was a sculptor and artist, creating beautiful sculptures and drawings.
- This sculpture is called *Mother and Child*.

#### Question: Can you see the mother and child?

- It is made of marble, which is a very hard stone that you can carve to have a lovely smooth surface. Alma was inspired by natural stones on beaches that become really smooth from being tossed around in the waves.
- She uses simple shapes, just like Terry Frost uses for his paintings.
- There is a big hole connecting one side to the other that looks like the face.
- Alma wants us to see what is missing and guess what the sculpture is meant to be. She hasn't included a face in the stone so that we can imagine a face in the gap.

Action: Add faces, arms and legs to the shapes on your worksheet to make them into people.

Action: Why not try and pose like a statue and then see how long you can stay completely still?

## Art Gallery Explore (5 minutes)

Action: Use this time to explore the rest of the gallery and find your favourite artwork.

Action: Use the worksheet to sketch your favourite artwork.



