

Curious Colony

A twenty first century Wunderkammer

EDUCATION RESOURCE



...from the *Colonial* to the Contemporary world

NEWCASTLE REGION ART GALLERY

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...from the *Colonial* to the Contemporary world

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There are a number of ways to explore this education resource; you can click on the colonial and contemporary artist's name to go directly to their links and comparison page OR artmaking page OR go to the *image contents* on the next page and click on the thumbnail to go directly to the full page image of each work of art OR once in **FULL SCREEN MODE** (located under the VIEW tab) simply use the arrow keys to move through the presentation. Press the ESC key to exit the presentation.

Colonial Contemporary



John Lewin



Sarah Smuts-Kennedy



Joseph Lycett



Joan Ross



Richard (TR) Browne



Louise Weaver

Colonial Contemporary



James Wallis &
Walter Preston



Danie Mellor

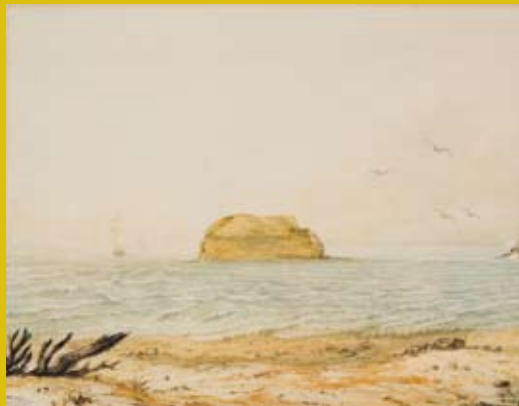


William Buelow Gould



Robyn Stacey

...from the *Colonial* to the Contemporary world



John Lewin *Nobby Island from Coal River* 1807
watercolour on paper, 33.2 x 43.7 cm
Purchased 1964, Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection



Sarah Smuts-Kennedy *Pyramid Scheme* 2009
mixed media, dimensions variable
Purchased 2009 and gifted by the artist
Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection

Discover The history of Nobbys Headland:
<http://lakescan.customer.netspace.net.au/Nobbys.pdf>

John Lewin's *Birds of New Holland* on the National Library's website:

<http://nationaltreasures.nla.gov.au/~/Treasures/item/nla.int-ex6-s47/nla.int-ex6-s51>

Survey Sarah Smuts-Kennedy works of art on GBK Gallery's website:
<http://www.gbk.com.au/artists/sarah-smutskennedy>

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John Lewin



Sarah Smuts-Kennedy

Making Activity: Clay Trophy

Sarah Smuts-Kennedy has created an ironic statement by placing a lump of coal on a pedestal.

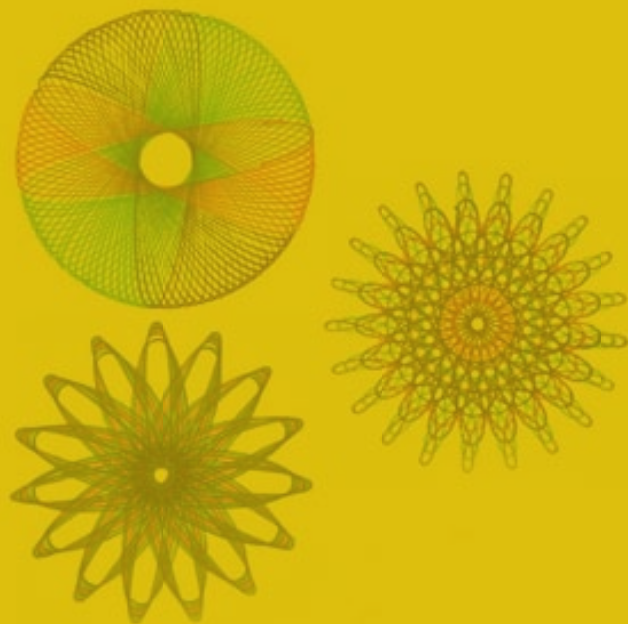
Brainstorm what resources you think Newcastle should be putting on a pedestal.

Now create clay trophies of your idea.

You could use air dry clay for this.

Display them in clusters as a class and invite people to view the exhibit.

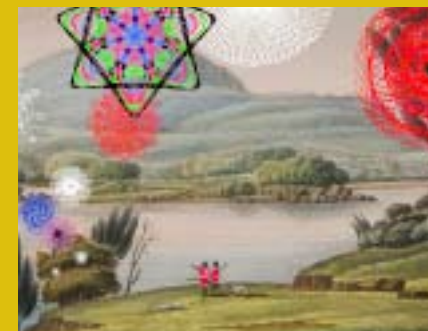




...from the *Colonial* to the Contemporary world



Joseph Lycett *The Sugar Loaf mountain, near Newcastle, New South Wales, from Views in Australia* 1824, hand coloured etching and aquatint on paper, image 17.1 x 27.1 cm, plate 23.0 x 32.0 cm, Purchased 1968, Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection



Joan Ross *When I grow up I want to be a Forger* 2010, Animator: Ben Butler Sound: Sumugen Sivanesan, animation and video, edition 1/5, duration 3 minutes, Gift of the artist 2010, Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection courtesy the artist and Gallery Barry Keldoulis, Sydney



Discover zoom in on other works of art by Lycett on the National Library's website:

http://www.nla.gov.au/exhibitions/countryandlandscape/artist-joseph_lycett.html

the history of spirographs:

<http://www.samstoybox.com/toys/Spirograph.html>

Survey Joan Ross' works of art on GBK Gallery's website:

<http://www.gbk.com.au/artists/joan-ross>

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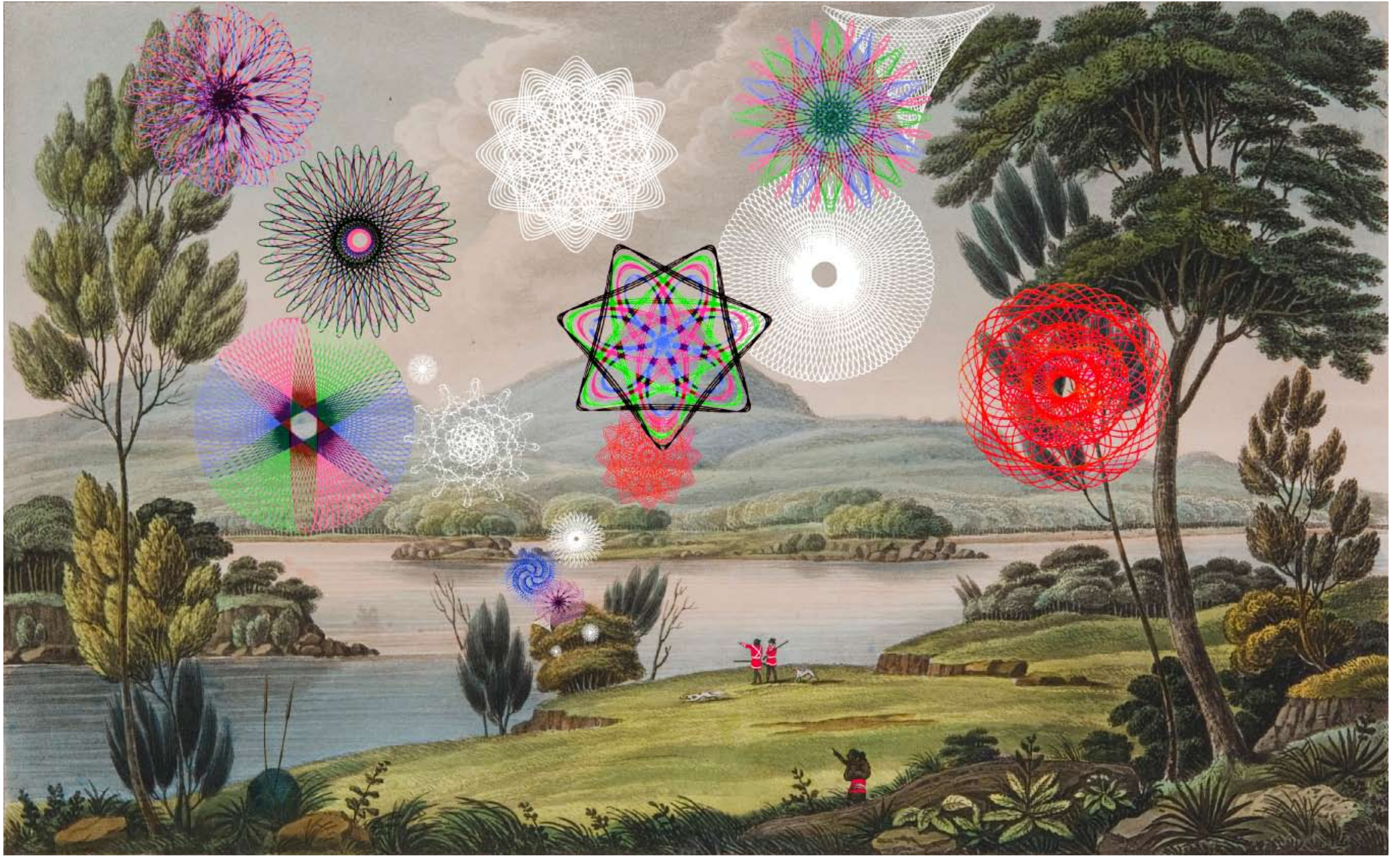
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THE SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN,

*Near New Castle
New South Wales.*

London. Published Oct. 1. 1828. by J. Souter, 43. St. Pauls Church Yard.



Joan Ross

Making Activity: **Tableau**

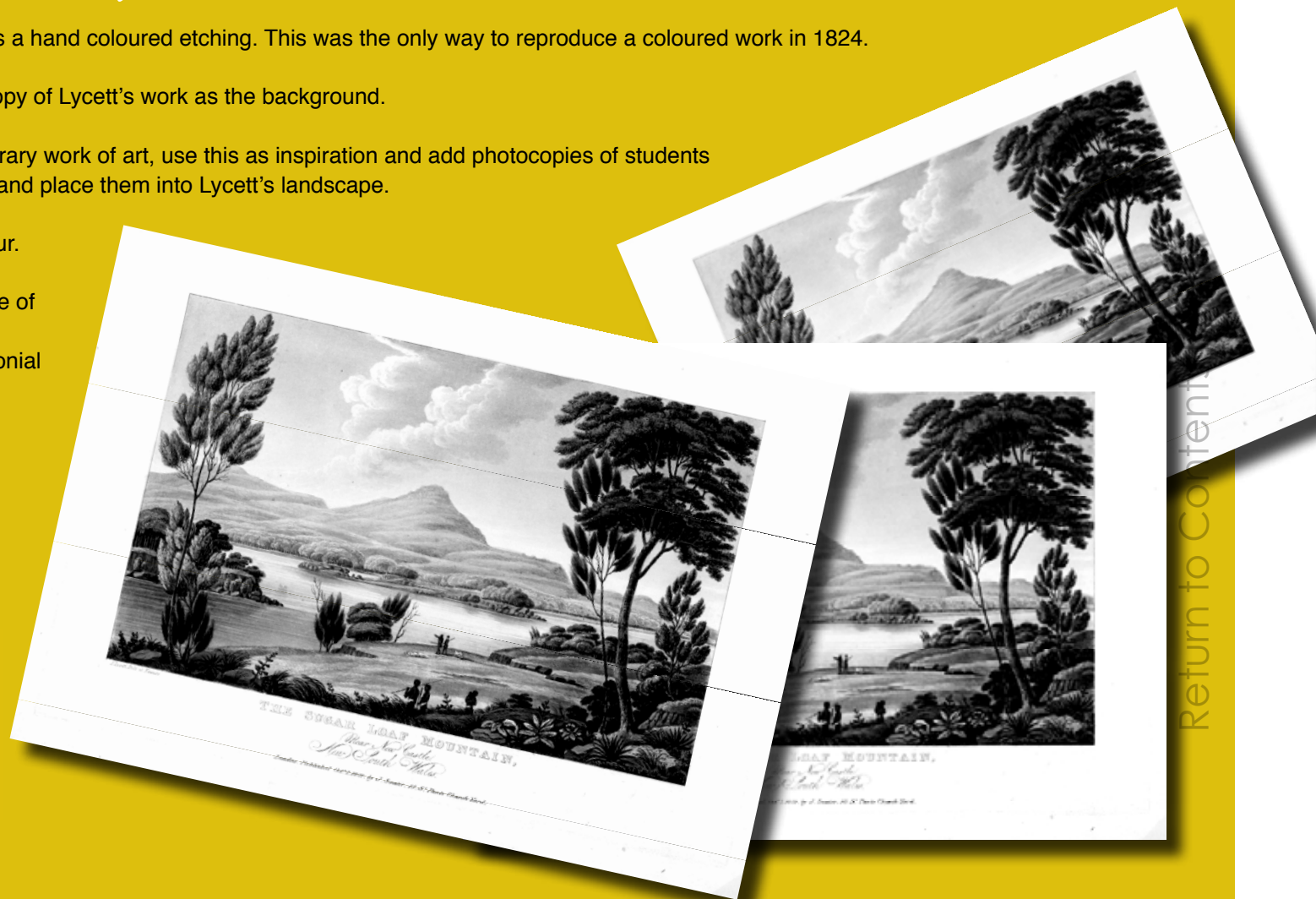
The Joseph Lycett work shown is a hand coloured etching. This was the only way to reproduce a coloured work in 1824.

Create a collage using a photocopy of Lycett's work as the background.

Consider Joan Ross's contemporary work of art, use this as inspiration and add photocopies of students photographed in the schoolyard and place them into Lycett's landscape.

Colour the work using watercolour.

Choose colours to create a sense of wonder or curiosity about the modern figures placed in the colonial landscape.



Resources: Photocopies of Joseph Lycett's landscape, photocopies of images of students in the schoolyard, watercolours, glue, scissors

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Richard (TR) Browne *Select specimens from nature of the birds animals &c of New South Wales collected and arranged by Thomas Skottowe Esqr, the drawings by T R Browne NSW, Newcastle, New South Wales 1813, 29 watercolour drawings in leather-bound album, 31.0 x 20.0 cm, Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW*



Louise Weaver *Golden Snipe 2010*
hand crocheted lambswool over taxidermied Australian Snipe (*Gallinago hardwickii*), Australian red cedar (*Toona ciliata*) cotton perlé crochet thread, cotton embroidery thread, felt, gold leaf, 26.6 x 22.5 x 16 cm
Photography by Mark Ashkanasy
Private collection, Courtesy the artist and Darren Knight Gallery, Sydney

Discover Richard (TR) Browne watercolours in *Thomas Skottowe's* leather bound album on the Mitchell Library's website:

<http://acms.sl.nsw.gov.au/album/albumView.aspx?acmsID=423725&itemID=824099>

Survey Louise Weavers works of art on Darren Knight Gallery's website:

<http://www.darrenknightgallery.com/artists/weaver/otherwork/01.htm>

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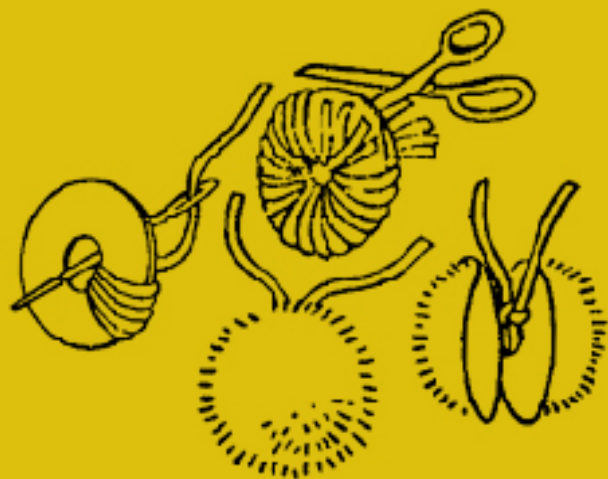
Louise Weaver

Making Activity: Yellow Bower

The male Regent Bowerbird builds bowers (a type of nest) and collects green objects for decoration. The bowers are always aligned North-South. These constructions can be simple ground clearings or elaborate structures built to attract female mates.

As a class, collect yellow objects from home (plastic bottle lids, pegs, rubber duckys, fabric, old toys etc.). Find a suitable place in the schoolyard to build a bower using sticks, leaves and grass. Make sure your bower is aligned North-South.

Using yellow yarn like Louise Weaver, students can bind the found objects and sticks together, or as an extension learn finger knitting in the classroom. Bind the objects with knitting and add pom-poms to each object before placing them in the bower.



Links

Finger Knitting

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=arRccTqAbG4>

<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESummer06/FEATfingerknitting.html>

Pom Pom

<http://www.kid-craft-central.com/pom-poms.html>

French Knitting

http://www.atomicshrimp.com/st/content/french_knitting/

Resources: Compass, yellow yarn, found yellow objects, sticks.

...from the *Colonial* to the Contemporary world



James Wallis/Walter Preston *Kangaroos of New South Wales, view from Seven-Mile Hill near Newcastle, NSW 1820*
etching on paper
image 18.6 x 26.8 cm, plate 24.0 x 35.2 cm
Purchased 1968
Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection



Danie Mellor *Dreaming beyond paradise (let sleeping giants lie)* 2008
mixed media on paper, 60.0 x 75.0 cm
Purchased by Newcastle Region Art Gallery Foundation and the Gil Docking
Drawing Fund 2008
Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection

Discover Preston's engraving's on the NSW State Library's website:

http://www.sl.nsw.gov.au/discover_collections/history_nation/macquarie/artists/slaeger/index.html

Explore a video of one of Danie Mellor's works of art on the National Gallery of Australia's website:

<http://nga.gov.au/Exhibition/NIAT07/Detail.cfm?IRN=163901>

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James Wallis/Walter Preston



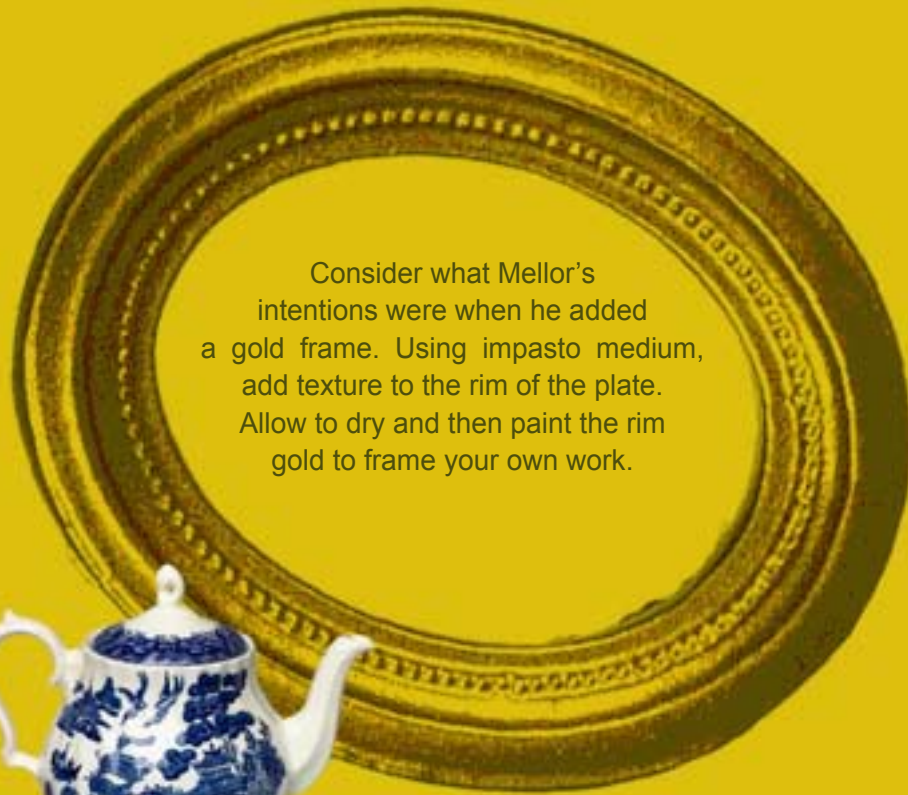
Danie Mellor

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Making Activity: My Willow Pattern

Mellor has used a traditional willow pattern as the background of his work of art. Using a paper plate and a blue pen create your own willow pattern that represents your family's history in Australia and place an Australian icon in the centre.

Make sure you keep the design inside the rim of the plate.



Consider what Mellor's intentions were when he added a gold frame. Using impasto medium, add texture to the rim of the plate. Allow to dry and then paint the rim gold to frame your own work.



Resources: Paper plates, blue pen, impasto medium, gold paint, brushes.

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William Buelow Gould *Flowers and fruit* c 1840
oil on canvas, 37.2 x 30.6 cm
Purchased 1961
Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection



Robyn Stacey *Bombe (Cape Bulbs)* 2009
Type C print, 120.0 x 150.5cm, edition 2/5
Purchased in memory of Warwick Smithson with funds from the
Smithson family 2010
Newcastle Region Art Gallery collection
courtesy the artist and Stills Gallery, Sydney

Discover another work of art by Gould in the NGA collection:
<http://artsearch.nga.gov.au/Detail.cfm?IRN=29601>

Survey Robyn Stacey's previous works of art on Stills Gallery's
website:
http://www.stillsgallery.com.au/artists/stacey/index.php?obj_id=series_05&nav=5

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William Buelow Gould



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Making Activity: Still Life: Flowers and Fruit

Both Gould as a colonial convict artist and Stacey as a contemporary artist have depicted still lifes.

The flowers used as a model by Gould were most likely wax flowers and fruit as most of the flowers depicted would not be in bloom or even available at that time in Australia.

In the classroom, set up a flower and fruit still life. Recreate the still life using both photographs and traditional painting techniques. Discuss the different methods used and how painting has changed in contemporary time compared to Gould's day.



Link

Explore Still life composition on the NGA's interactive website:

<http://www.nga.gov/kids/zone/stilllife.htm>



Resources: Fresh or artificial flowers and fruit, paint, paper, brushes, digital cameras.

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<http://www.newcastle.nsw.gov.au/nag>

Acknowledgements

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Authors: Lisa Slade *Curatorial Consultant* and Anna Scobie *Gallery Assistant*

Editors: Tristan Sharp *Program Manager*, Penelope Finnigan *Public Programs Officer*

Web design: Susan Cairns *Gallery Assistant*

Resource Design: Anna Scobie

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THE
HERALD



1233 ABC
Newcastle

