

Louisa Martin

Proxy

2017



Louisa Martin is an artist who works with different materials, including light and video. She is interested in how the spaces in which we spend time can influence the way we feel. For example, in her installation at Bluecoat, *Proxy*, she used different colours of light to influence the way the audience felt.

Many people have a favourite colour, and like some colours more than others. Being in a room painted your favourite colour might make you feel especially happy. Throughout history, artists have used colour to express different feelings, for example Picasso's paintings during his Blue Period. Advertising and marketing also use colours to try and make people think and act a certain way, for example using light and fresh colours on cleaning products.

THINK ABOUT

- Do you have a favourite colour?
- If so, how does this colour make you feel?

TALK ABOUT

- Think about your bedroom and belongings. What colours have you surrounded yourself with? How do these colours make you feel?
- Can you think of an example of an advert using colour to try and make people act and think a certain way?
- People who are blind, partially sighted or colour blind may not be able to see colours. What do you think the world would be like without colour?

FIND OUT ABOUT

- Do colours have any particular meaning?
- Look at paintings from Picasso's Blue Period: how do these make you feel? Would they make you feel differently if they used different colours?

Activity

Complete the Louisa Martin 'Feeling Colourful' worksheet. Think carefully about any emotions that seeing a particular colour makes you feel, and if there is anything that the colour reminds you of. For example, the colour yellow might remind you of the sun, or the colour green might remind you of a favourite toy you had when you were younger.

Once you have completed your worksheet share your ideas in groups.

- Were there any colours that made everyone feel the same way?
- If there were colours that made everyone feel the same, why do you think that was?
- Can you imagine how you might use these different colours in an art work to try and make the audience feel a certain way?
- What colours would you use to make someone feel happy?
- What colours would you use to make someone feel sad?
- What colours would you use to make someone feel angry?

- What colours would you use to make someone feel excited?

Learning aims and outcomes

The children will:

- learn more about different artistic movements
 - learn more about different types of thinking
 - learn more about how colours are made
 - use their own thoughts, feelings and ideas
 - be able to discuss their ideas in a group
 - be able to develop their art and craft skills