The Model



Make a Cubist Collage

Mary Swanzy was born in Dublin in 1882. When she was a teenager she went to art classes where she learnt how to draw and paint. She loved painting so much that she went on to study art at the Metropolitan School of Art in Dublin.

In 1905 Mary went to study in Paris where she met lots of famous artists. During this time Mary saw the work of important artists like Paul Cezanne and Pablo Picasso who were painting in a completely new way, which they called Cubism. Mary brought these ideas home, and she is now celebrated as one of the first Irish Cubist painters. She took inspiration from everything around her, especially nature, and then used geometric shapes to re-create her inspiration into a Cubist artwork.

You can see below how Swanzy recreated a landscape using lots of different shapes.



You are going to make your very own Swanzy inspired collage. Take a close look at nature and be creative with shapes and colours as you cut out your own masterpiece!

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WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Brightly coloured paper
- Scissors
- A clear space to work
- Glue
- Pencil

METHOD

- Take your scissors and cut out shapes from the brightly coloured paper. They can be any shape you want; they can be wavy like the sea or sharp like a cactus, they can be in the shape of love hearts or spell out words! Just let your imagination take over.
- When you have made a pile of brightly coloured shapes take a large sheet of coloured paper and start composing your picture. This means arranging the shapes onto the page to make a picture that looks nice. Composition is very important to artists' work. Don't be afraid to experiment with your shapes, they can be apart or touching. You could even overlap them to make a new shape just play around and see what happens.
- Once you're happy with your picture you can stick your paper shapes down.

Ask a parent or guardian to take a picture of your finished piece and send it to us on social media. We will share your artwork on our website and Instagram account @modelsligo / #themodelinsideout