

The Model

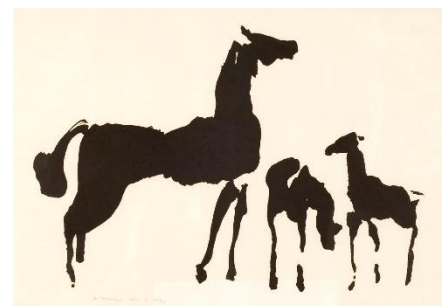


Make Your Own Print

Louis le Brocquy was born in Dublin in 1916. He always loved art but never studied it in school, instead he taught himself how to draw and paint. He did this by travelling all around Europe to visit art museums so he could learn from all the famous artworks he saw there.

Even though Louis le Brocquy was travelling around Europe he never forgot his home and made many artworks about Ireland. His artwork *The Táin* illustrates the story of Meabh, The Queen of Connacht whose tomb is at the top of Knocknarea in Sligo.

These artworks were made using an art technique called Printmaking. This involves making a series of images from a specially prepared or carved surface - like wood, metal or stone. You then ink the surface up and press it onto a piece of paper. Pull away the piece of paper to reveal your finished print.



You are going to make your own print. Louis le Brocquy used stone for his illustrations of *The Táin*, but for your prints you will use a potato!

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WHAT YOU WILL NEED

- Potato
- Pencils
- Paper
- Poster paint
- Paint brush
- Paint tray
- Knife / paper clip / cookie cutter
- Kitchen paper

METHOD

- The first step is to come up with your design for your potato print. On a piece of paper sketch out your ideas. Try experimenting with different shapes and lines. With these prints the simpler the better!
- When you have decided on your design it is time to prepare your potato. Get an adult to cut your potato in half.
- Draw your pattern on your potato with a pen or pencil, don't worry if it's not very clear, it is just a rough guide to help with the carving.
- Now your potato is ready to be carved. You will be carving away the parts of the potato's surface that you don't want to receive paint. Ask an adult to help carve your design using a knife or you can try yourself using a paper clip to dig out lines and grooves.
- As the potato will be naturally wet, pat it dry with some kitchen paper.
- Once the potato is dry you are ready for printing. Put paint onto the raised part your potato using a paint brush or by dipping it in a thin layer of paint on a tray.
- Firmly press the stamp onto a piece of paper for about three seconds then slowly lift the potato from the paper.



- The best part of printmaking is that you can use the same design over and over again. Repeat the design and even try layering it to make new and different patterns.

If you like, ask a parent or guardian to take a picture of your work and share it with us. We will post your artwork on our website and Instagram account @modelsigo / #themodelinsideout