

TOROTORO TOI *(Exploring Art with Valentine Venimore)*

MODULE 3

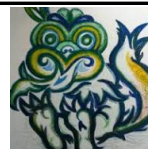
15: "Titiro ki te Whakairo"

Looking at carving



16: "Tiki, Manaia, Taniwha, ."

Traditional and modern Maori design.



17: "Korero korero."

Narrative



18: "Whakapuakitanga."

Expressionism



19: " Nga tangata o te Taone "

People of the City



20: "Rarangi Matiti."

Grid lines



21: "Matapihi."

Windows



Mahi Takitahi (Individual projects)

15 "Titiro ki te Whakairo"

Looking at carving

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Toi whakairo (art carving) or just whakairo (carving) is a Māori traditional art of carving in wood, stone or bone.

The earliest examples of Māori carving are similar in style to carvings from other Polynesian islands. One example is Uenuku, a stylised representation of the rainbow god, which has been compared to Hawaiian carvings. Uenuku is a Tainui taonga and the style of this striking representation is unlike most Māori carvings. Uenuku was lost during the battle of Hingakākā between Ngāti Toa and Waikato tribes about 1780, and was rediscovered near Lake Ngāroto many years later. It is now in Te Awamutu Museum.



In the 20th century there was a renaissance of traditional Māori carving. Pine Taiapa (1901-1972) was one of the first students under Āpirana Ngata at the School of Māori Arts in Rotorua in 1927 which became the New Zealand Māori Arts and Crafts Institute. Pine and his younger brother Hone Taiapa (1912-1979) worked on over 100 wharenui including the centennial meeting house at Waitangi,

A wheku is a carved representation of a human face, often depicting an ancestor and is believed to offer protection and strength. Wheku carvings often feature slanting eyes, a protruding tongue (pukana). While the basic form of a wheku is consistent, there can be variations in style and detail depending on the artist, the tribal affiliation, and the specific ancestor being represented. The term "koruru" is sometimes used to specifically refer to the wheku that serves as the head of an ancestor on a wharenui gable.



Pine Taiapa



Hone Taiapa



Inia Te Wiata Jnr

Whakairo rakau. | Wheku

Traditionally kōkōwai (red ochre)



Modern whakairo

Arnold Wilson, Joe Kemp, Sydney Mead, Para Matchitt, Fred Graham, Ralph Hotere



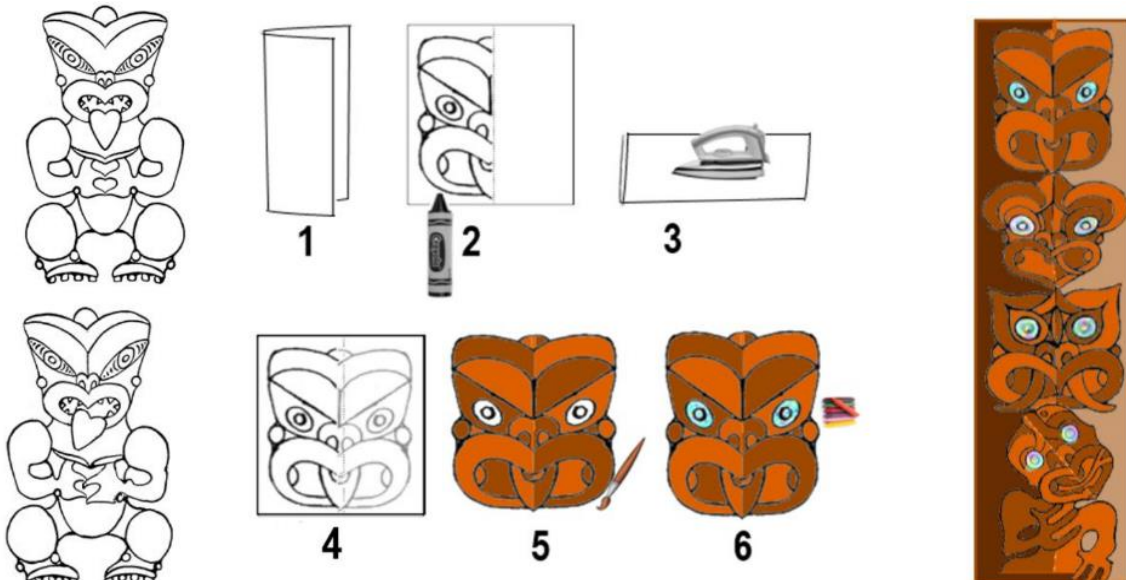
What to do:

Design two or more wheku

(Caleb Kutia)



Follow this process using two shades of brown to simulate light and shade on a 3D carving.



Add infill patterns (chisel marks) with oil pastels .





Infill designs

The **koru**, which is often used in Māori art as a symbol of creation, is based on the shape of an unfurling fern frond. Its circular shape conveys the idea of perpetual movement, and its inward coil suggests a return to the point of origin.

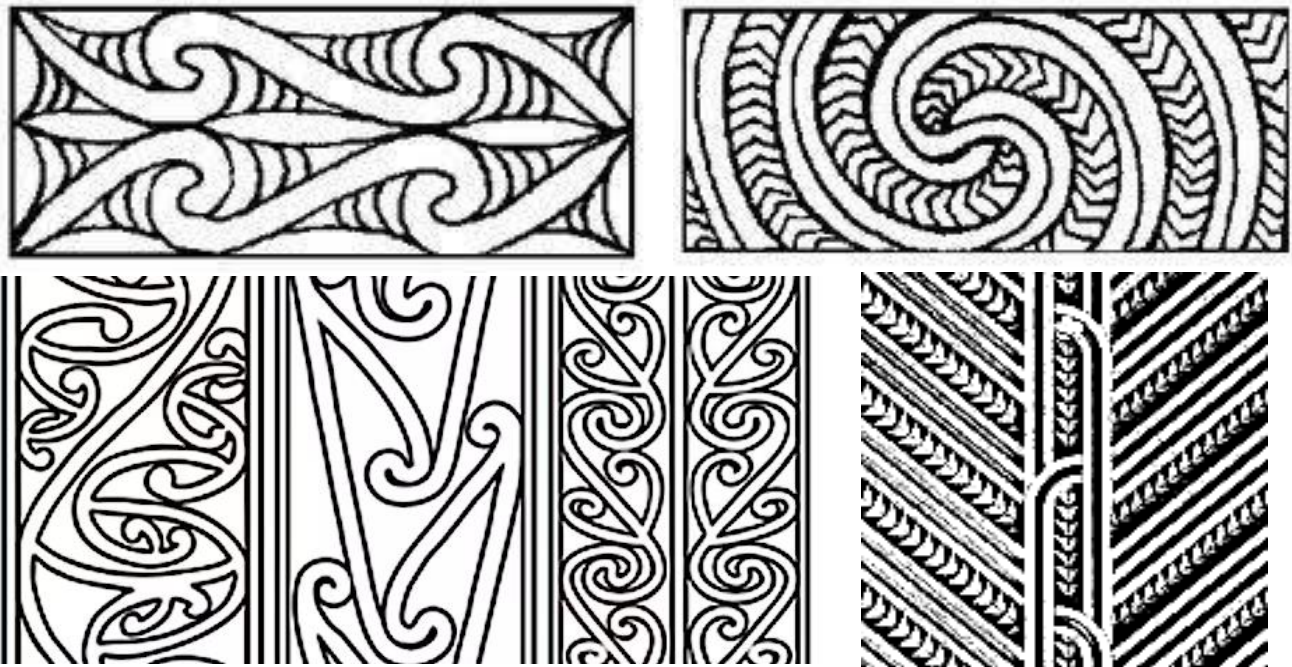
The **rauru** pattern, a spiral design found in Māori art, primarily symbolizes new life, growth, strength, and peace, similar to the koru. It represents the unfurling of a fern frond and is associated with the cycle of life and renewal.

The rauru is often linked to the unfurling fern frond, a symbol of purity, growth, and renewal in Māori culture.

The name "Rauru" is also associated with an ancestor known for his carving skills, further connecting the pattern to artistic traditions and craftsmanship.

The rauru design is commonly incorporated into kowhaiwhai, traditional Māori painted patterns found in meeting houses and other significant structures.

The **raperape** motif is an interlocking spiral design in which the same curvilinear line enters and exits the spiral, paying reference to the movement of life and evolution of death. This design is often found adorning the body in the art of tā moko.



Manaia

The Manaia is a mythological creature in Māori culture, and is a common motif in whakaro pounamu and whakairo wheua. The Manaia is usually depicted as having the head of a bird and the tail of a fish and the body of a man or perhaps a reptile. As such the Manaia a connection between the sky , the land and the sea. It is said to be the messenger between the earthly world of mortals and the domain of the spirits. The Manaia is a holder of great spiritual energy and is a guardian against evil.



Traditional variations of manaia, northern tribes.





Hei tiki

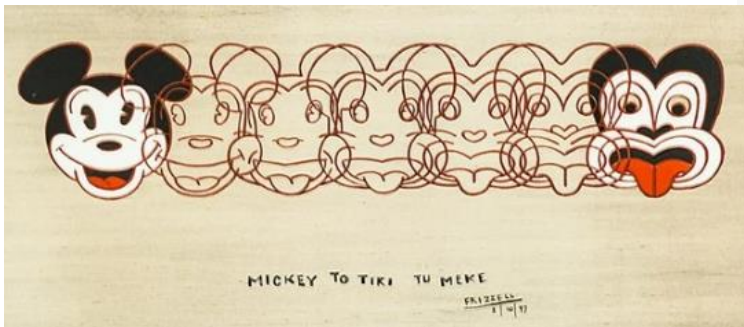
Some believe Tiki was the first man in Māori legend, created by the Atua Tāne. Others consider Tiki to be the Atua himself and the forefather of humankind. Regardless, there is consensus in Māori culture that humankind descends from Tiki lineage. the word "Hei" means something worn around the neck and "Tiki" is a word used by Māori for whakairo of a human image. Traditionally pounamu, but modern variations are in many materials.

There are two styles of design. One has a head to body ratio of 30:70 and small details such as eyes, ears, elbows and knees. The head is on a tilt, with one hand placed on the thigh, and the other on the chest. The other is generally heavier, with a 40:60 proportion, both hands are on the thighs, and the eyes are larger.





Other interpretations



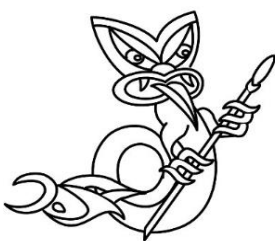
"Mickey to Tiki Tu Meke"

Dick Frizzell

Taniwha

Taniwha are revered powerful creatures from traditional Māori stories. They live in deep pools, rivers, dark caves and the ocean. The waters in which they live can be dangerous and even considered deadly because of currents or unseen dangers, or they may be deemed special, magical and representative of good fortune.

Ko Waikato te awa Ko Taupiri te Maunga Ko Te Wherowhero te tangata
Waikato **taniwharau** He piko he taniwha, he piko he taniwha. *Waikato*
the river Taupiri the mountain Te Wherowhero the man Waikato of a hundred
taniwha At every bend a taniwha.



Kawautahi is a small lake 15 kilometres up Rētāruke River, a tributary of the Whanganui. It was avoided by Māori because a ferocious taniwha was said to live in it. In 1892 a surveyor employed three Māori from Taumarunui – Wārahi, Pita Te Aitua and Piki – to assist him in his work at the lake. Despite their concerns, they agreed because of the good wages on offer.



However, while there they were allegedly attacked by the taniwha, and although slightly wounded, they all survived. They later told their story to T. W. Downes, who based this image loosely on their description.



Reserve Bank



Alistair McDonald



Regan O'Callaghan



Education Dept



Teara

What to do:

Design your own manaia, tiki or taniwha painting or poster. Start with 3 small sketches using water soluble pencils, to explore some variations of your ideas then paint.



17: "Korero korero."

Narrative

[MENU](#)

Art that tells stories or expresses opinions is known as narrative art. This type of art aims to convey a story, either as a single moment or a sequence of events, through visual means. It can encompass various mediums like painting, sculpture, film, and even comics, and has been a cornerstone of artistic expression throughout history.

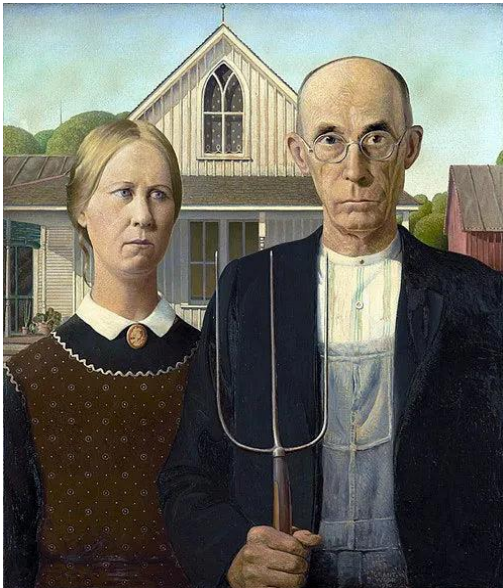
When interpreting narrative in art, explore the painting—taking an inventory of all of the things, emotions, places, actions, and people present in the work. The artist makes a lot of choices that impact the story, so make sure you and your student have discovered and analyzed these choices fully.



On the surface, it seems like a straightforward depiction of a couple. But delve deeper, and you'll notice numerous symbols: the convex mirror reflecting the room, the small dog signifying loyalty, and the fruit on the table suggesting fertility. Symbolism allows artists to embed layers of meaning, turning a static image into a dynamic narrative.



Jan Van Eyck
Arnolfini and his Wife, 1434



Art often tells more than one story; there's the obvious narrative and then there's the subtext. Artists love leaving clues that hint at deeper stories or personal struggles. For instance, may appear as a simple, straightforward portrait of a farmer and his daughter, but the pitchfork, the stern faces, and the Gothic window in the background all suggest deeper narratives about American rural life and its complexities.

Grant Wood
American Gothic 1930



The painting features Christina Olson, Wyeth's neighbor, who had a neuromuscular disorder that prevented her from walking. She is shown crawling across the field towards her family's farmhouse.

Andrew Wyeth
Christina's World 1948



On April 26, 1937, during the Spanish Civil War, the Nazis tested their new air force on the Basque town of Guernica in northern Spain. One-third of Guernica's 5,000 inhabitants were killed or wounded. Pablo Picasso exposed the horror of the bombing in his famous anti-war painting called Guernica.

Pablo Picasso,

Guernica, May 1–June 4, 1937 3.5 x 7.75 m



Tupaea

(The Tahitian who sailed on the Endeavour with James Cook.)

Joseph Banks, Barter.



Sweethearts and Wives

Philip Morris

C1870

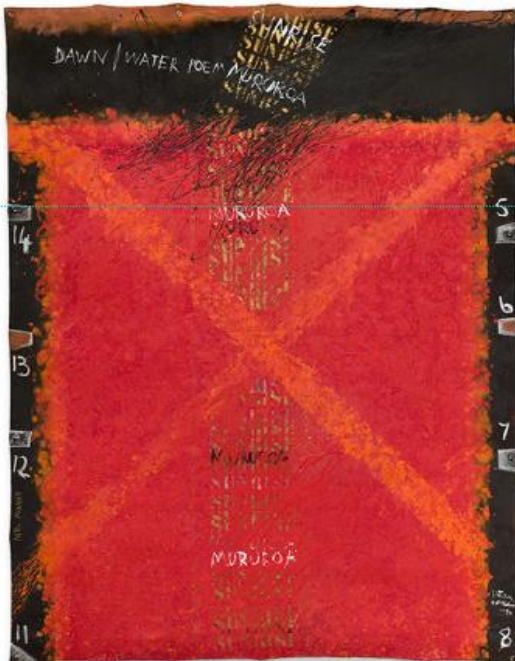
Auckland Art Gallery



William Strutt
View of Mt Egmont, Taranaki, with Maori driving off settlers' cattle.
 1861



Peter McIntyre
Into Casino



A powerful political and environmental protest message. Inspired by the French nuclear testing at Mururoa atoll in the 1980s, Hotere's works, including this particular piece, symbolise the atomic age, the Pacific Ocean surrounding Mururoa, and an unwavering flag of protest. The central X serves as a warning to the French military and a bold statement against their actions.

Ralph Hotere
Dawn/Water Poem



Colin McCahon
Six days in Nelson
and Canterbury
1950



Jacqueline Fahey
Christmas Day



Sirpa Alalääkkölä
Race to the Top

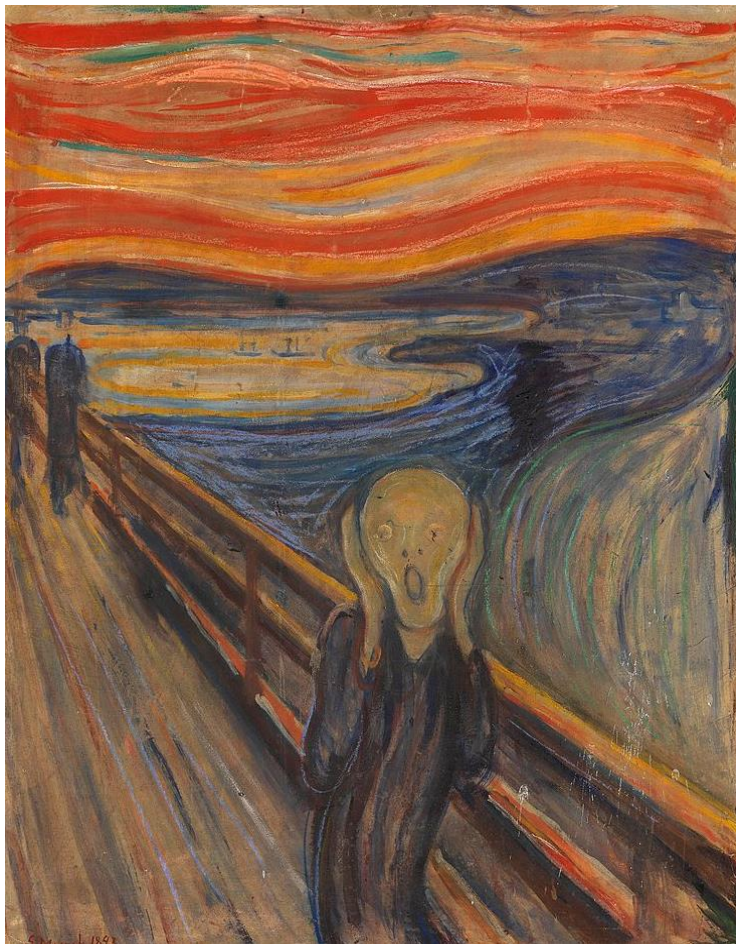
Expressionism

...is a modernist movement, initially in poetry and painting, originating in Northern Europe around the beginning of the 20th century.

Rejecting objective impressions for a subjective look at the world around them, expressionism art was more than a traditional art movement or even a group of expressionism artists. This was a rejection of more life-like artworks and partially a reaction to the new industrial and urban world taking over.

Artists in the field of expressionism painting emphasized feeling above all. Expressionism art, therefore, was both a rejection and reaction of more realist styles. It was also a reaction of the changing world these early 20th century artists were witnessing.

The influence of expressionism art is all encompassing. It touched not just traditional art but also drama, literature, and movies. Distortion, exaggeration, colour choice, primitivism, and fantasy are all characteristics of expressionism.





The Dessert: ("Harmony in Red" or "Red Room") is one of Henri Matisse's most important works from the period between 1908 and 1913. The painting depicts a red dining room, complete with vases and a figure of a woman arranging fruit. Despite the vibrant arabesque patterns on the tablecloth and walls, the wash of red over the whole painting creates a flattened space for a unique, striking composition.



Paul Klee was a Swiss artist whose eclectic painting style incorporated elements of expressionism, surrealism, and cubism. His work featured bold color blocks and geometric shapes

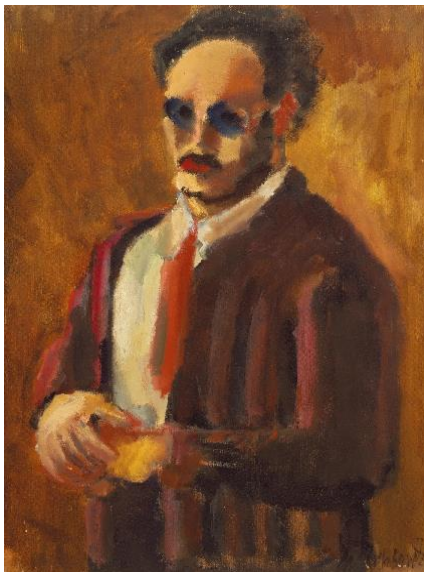
Abstract Expressionism developed in New York in the 1940s when a small group of American artists wanted to introduce radical new directions to art. The artists known as 'Abstract Expressionists' aimed to encompass not only the work of painters who filled their canvases with fields of colour and abstract forms, but also those who 'attacked' their canvases with a vigorous gestural expressionism.



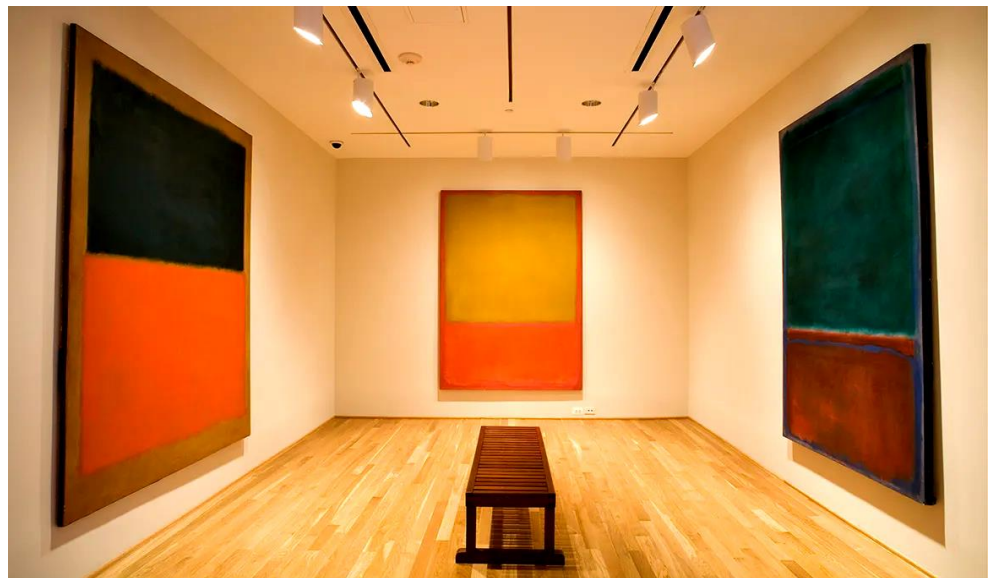
"Saturday Night" Willem de Kooning. An American painter of the 20th century, the founder of abstract expressionism. An incredible energy is felt in the paintings of Willem de Kooning.



Blue Poles, also known as Number 11, 1952 is an abstract expressionist painting by American artist Jackson Pollock. It was purchased amid controversy by the National Gallery of Australia in 1973 and today remains one of the gallery's major paintings.



Mark Rothko "Self Portrait" 1936



Unlike many of his fellow Abstract Expressionists, Rothko never relied on such techniques as violent brushstrokes or dripping and splattering of paint. Instead, his virtually gestureless paintings achieve their effects by juxtaposing large areas of melting colors that seemingly float parallel to the picture plane in an indeterminate, atmospheric space.

New Zealand Expressionists



"Self Portrait". Philip Clairmont was celebrated from the late 1970s as perhaps New Zealand's leading neo-expressionist. He was born in Nelson in 1949, career, before committing suicide at the age of 34.



"Each Must Decide" The distorted faces emerging out of a dark background, the surreal moonlight and the challenging title were all characteristic of Tony Fomison's paintings. This one shows influences of the expressionist Rudolf Gopas and of Colin McCahon.



McCahon made the Northland panels after seeing the work of Jackson Pollock, Mark Rothko, and Willem de Kooning during a tour to the United States. Their work inspired him to paint at larger scale and in a more expressionist style.



The Bridge, a semi-abstract expressionist painting by the Lithuanian-born artist Rudi Gopas who taught at the Canterbury School of Art. Its striking use of colour and crude distorted form recalls the work of the influential group of German expressionist artists known as Die Brücke (The Bridge).



Emily Karaka "No Nukes"



Emily Karaka "1+1=Us"



Ralph Hotere "Blue Gums and Daisies Falling". (1931-2013) in protest against Port Otago's 1980s scheme to carve away half of the hill at Observation Point, above Port Chalmers where he had his studio. The company wanted flat land at the bottom of the site to store logs ahead of shipping them out from the deep-water port



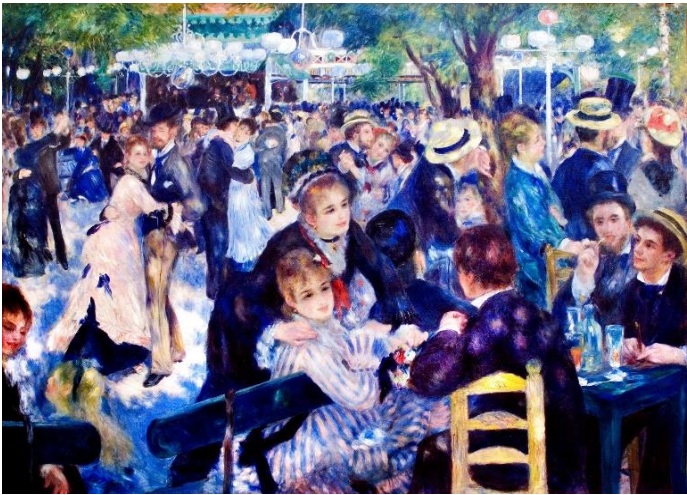
Pat Hanly "Pacific Condition". Hanly spent six years in Europe, where he soaked himself in European modernism. Returning to New Zealand in 1962, he was determined to reconnect with the Pacific environment. His response was a series of paintings with bright colours, especially the blues of sea and sky, and hard edges. 'Pacific condition' was a work of enamel on board in this spirit, which Hanly completed in 1976.

19: " Nga tangata o te Taone "

People of the City

Cityscapes in art represent more than just the physicality of cities; they embody the spirit, culture, and movement within urban spaces. These artistic renditions delve into the intricate details of city life, reflecting the people, architecture, activities, and the ever-present sense of movement.

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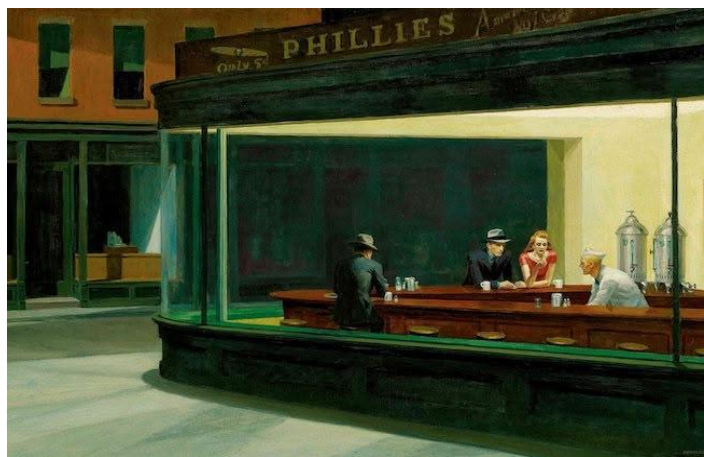
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7



☐	Degas
☐	Lowry
☐	Monet
☐	Renoir
☐	Seurat
☐	Toulouse Lautrec
☐	Van Gogh



Edward Hopper



Gustave Caillebotte



Peter Brown



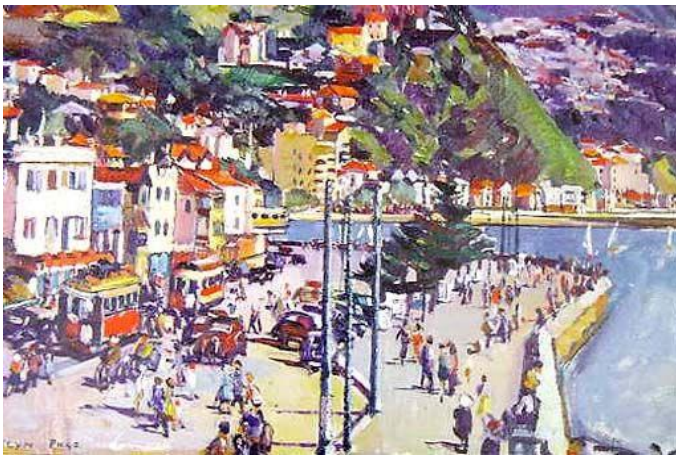
Ken White



Sarah Kidner



Mirek Kuzniar



Evelyn Page (NZ)



Konrad Biro



Kit Ong (NZ)



Sue Schaare (NZ)



Volodymyr Ivanchuk



Andrew James (NZ)

20: "Rarangi Matiti."

Grid lines

[MENU](#)

Concept 1

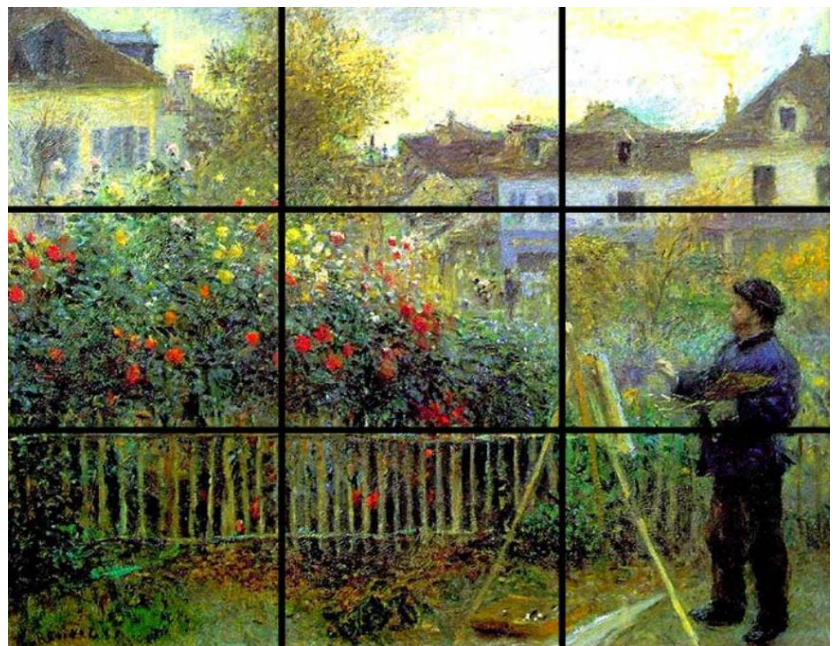
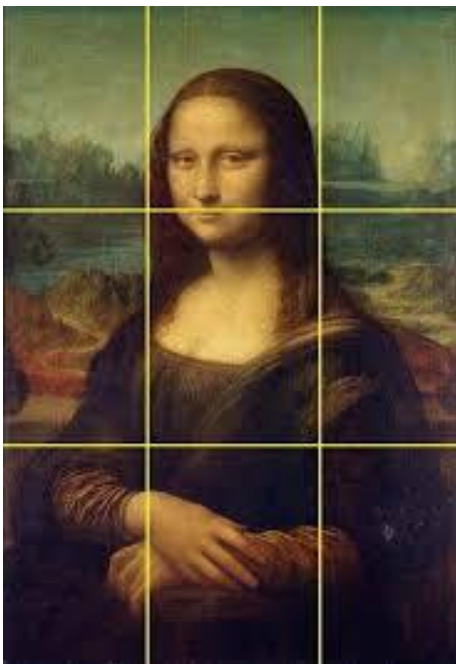
Throughout history, many famous artists have used the grid method for drawing, including the ancient Egyptians, Leonardo Da Vinci, Albrecht Durer, M.C. Escher, and Vincent Van Gogh.

A common compositional system is called "The Rule of Thirds" It divides a composition into 9 equal parts. It is commonly applied in photography, to the extent that many camera systems have a grid available in the viewfinder, to assist in compositional success,

The Rule of Thirds can be a good set of "training wheels" for beginners who want to get started with composition. *"A grid is like underwear, you wear it but it's not to be exposed. (Massimo Vignelli)"*

Composition may be challenging to master as there are many compositional systems, and indeed successful art may ignore all of them.

The Rule of Thirds can be a good starting point, but if you default to it all the time, it can limit how much you explore other options in composition.

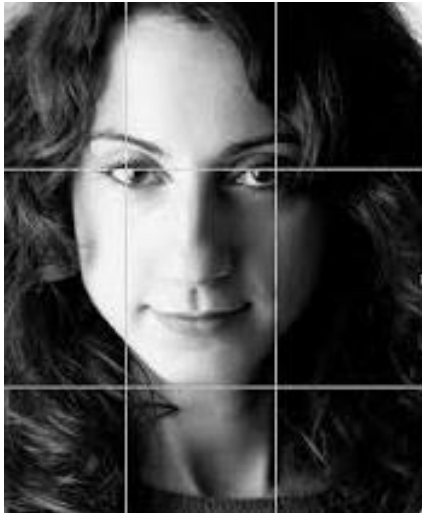


Monet, by Renoir

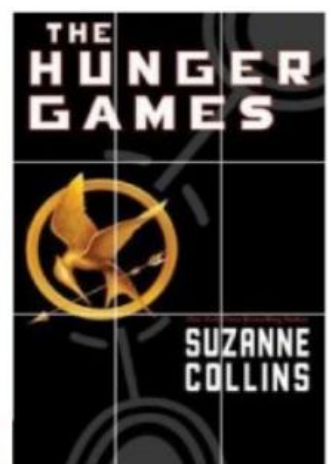
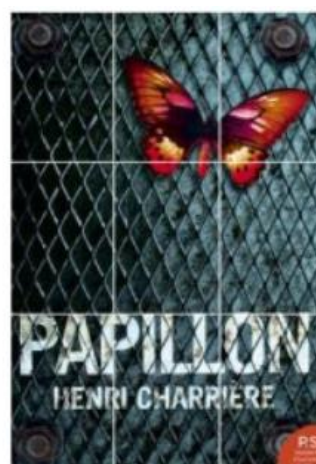
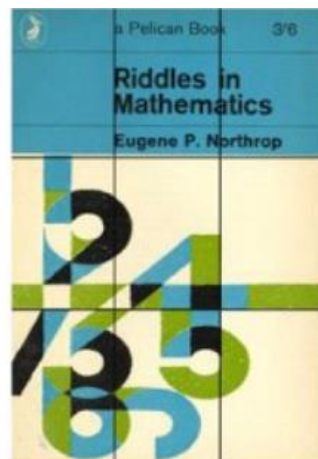
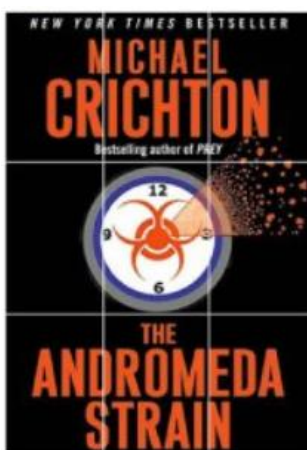


Arthur Streeton (1890)

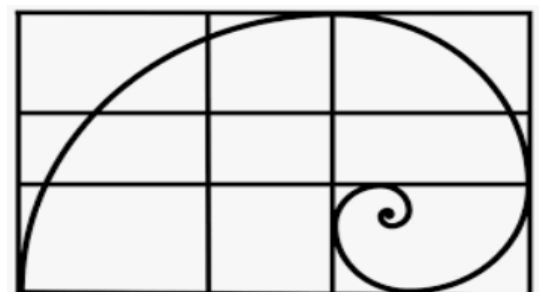
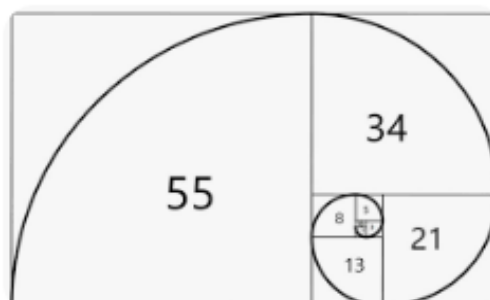
In photography...



and graphic design

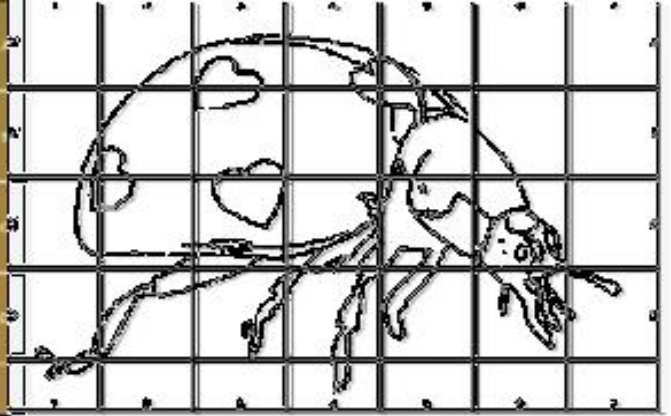
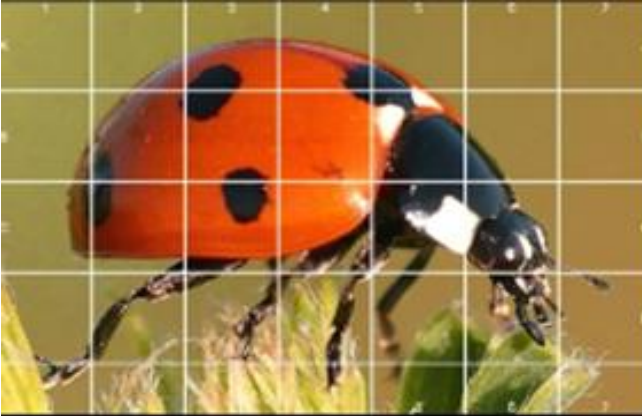


But then there is the "Golden Ratio" which produces a grid but not based on mathematical thirds.

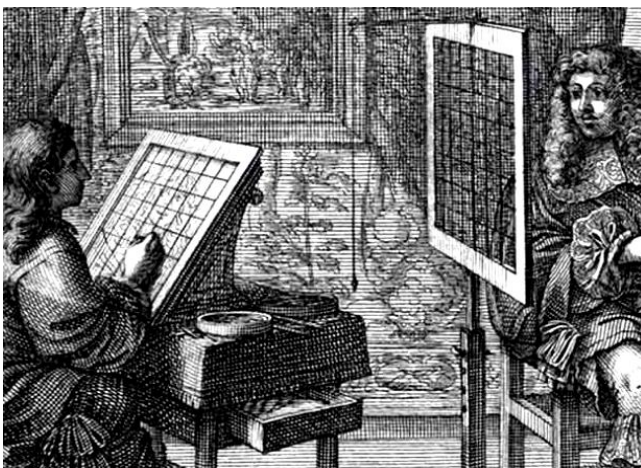
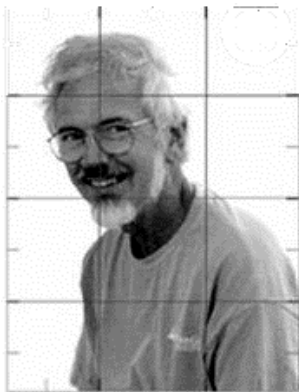


Concept 2

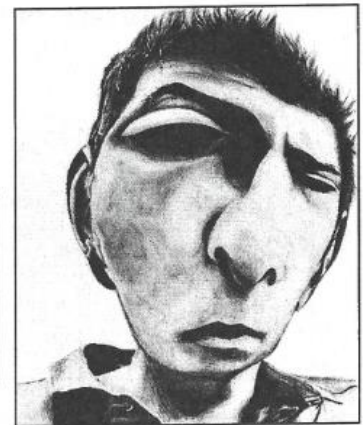
A grid can be used by artists for replicating an image. (Even in a much larger version.)



Or distorting by drawing an irregular grid.



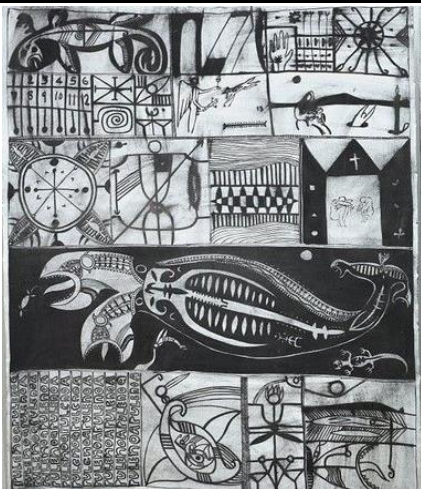
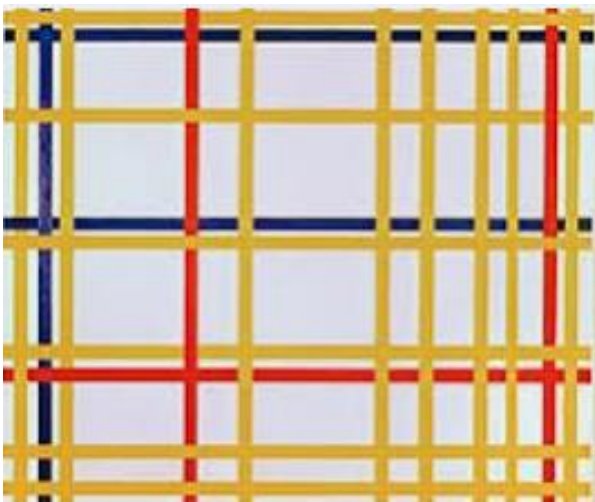
Renaissance artists (mid 1500's) used 'drawing machines' to create a likeness.



BUT...

Concept 3

Artists have used grids for the theme of their work, without using it as a tool for formalising composition, or reproducing images. Here are a few examples.



Artists in alphabetical order: *Johns, Klee, Maddox Mondrian, Pule, Warhol.*

YOUR CHALLENGE: Any original art work which uses a grid, overtly or covertly.

21: "Matapihi."

Windows

[MENU](#)

After stained-glass, conventional windows in artwork became not only architectural elements, but also sources of light and shadow, atmospheric backgrounds and framing devices as well as symbolic motifs for hope, inspiration, aspiration, change, illumination, even spiritual vision. Windows serve to integrate objects inside and outside. A transition between the interior (of a room or a person in it) and the exterior (landscape, seascape, or urbanscape). They may be representational or abstract. In some works, we are looking from the inside out and, in others, from the outside in, even unexpectedly into a person's dream or philosophy. In yet others, we are doing both, observing from inside a window at the windows across the way.



Johannes Vermeer



Caspar David Friedrich



Henri Matisse



Marc Chagall



Claude Monet



Berthe Morisot



Henri de Toulouse Lautrec



Vincent Van Gogh



Pierre Auguste Renoir

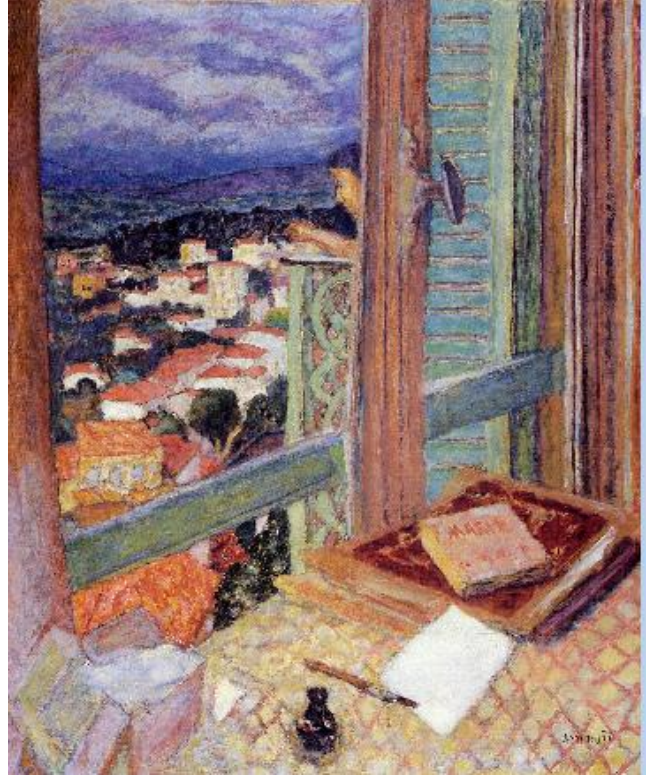


Edvard Munch

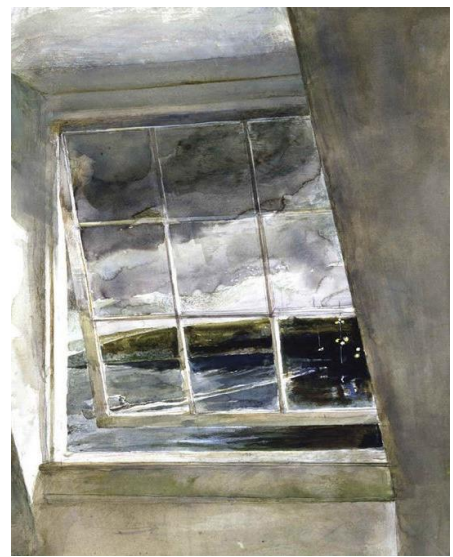


Edward Hopper





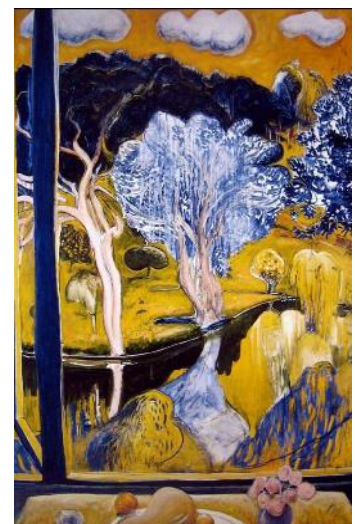
Pierre Bonnard



Andrew Wyeth



Winsome Gunning (Aus)



Brett Whitely (Aus)



Rene Magritte



Robert Delaunay



Georgia O'Keeffe



Pablo Picasso



Salvador Dali



Winslow Homer

New Zealand Artists



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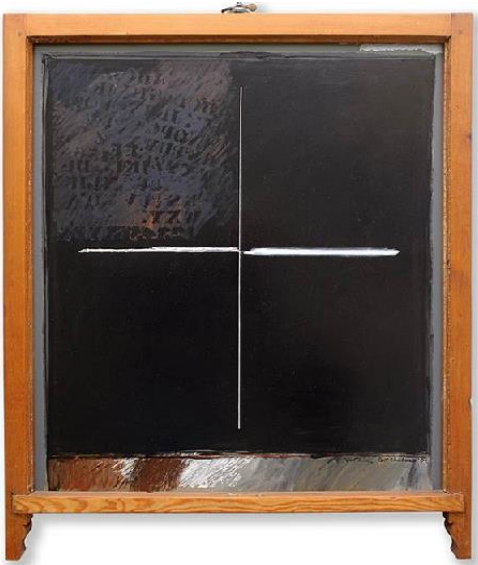
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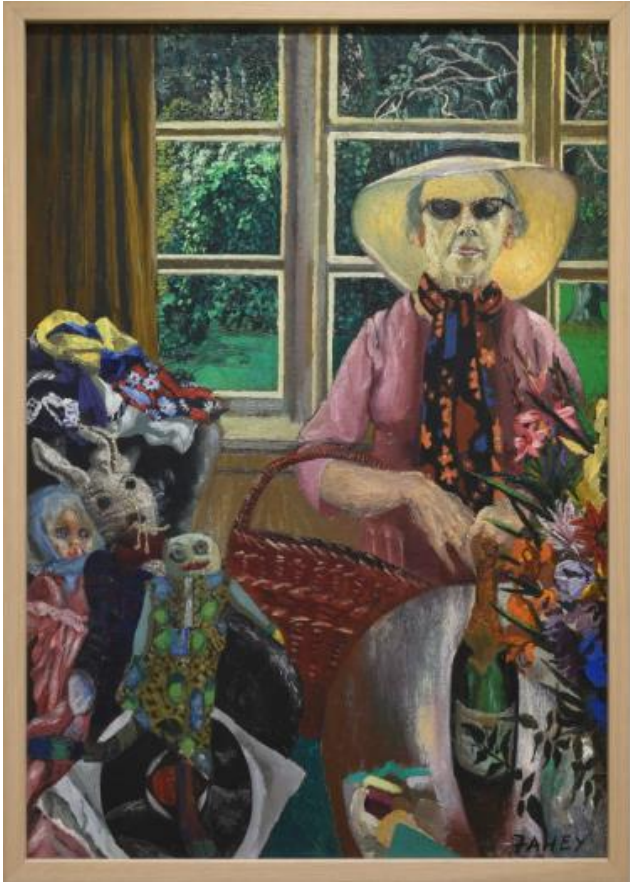
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NZ artists in alphabetical order: **Brent Wong, Claudia Pond Eyley, Colin McCahon, Grahame Sydney Jacqueline Fahey, Jane Evans, Peter Siddell, Phillip Clairmont, Raph Hotere, Raymond Ching.**

Your Challenge. Create your own painting that features a window.... OR Use some of the objects below, plus any you choose to add, to create a still life with a garden outside.

