

1. INTAGLIO and DRYPOINT PRINTING

● Activity Focus

Taking the Visual Element of Line as the focus, the activity will introduce pupils to Intaglio Printmaking through the technique of Drypoint and explore the printing process, the concept of image reversal and the effects of wiping and printing on the image.

● Structure

The activity can take place as a half-day workshop in Gracefield Print Room or can be undertaken as a timetabled activity in Art & Design Departments that have access to an etching press.

● Resources

Melanex or acetate sheets or Rhinalon plates (available from Great Art catalogue)
Drypointing Tools
Waterbased Intaglio printing ink, Printing Paper

● Gracefield Collection References

William Strang – Portrait of J Craig Annan
Hedley Fitton - Dumfries
Frank Short – Solway Landscapes
D Y Cameron Landscape with River Nith
All examples are Intaglio prints etching or drypoint with a linear approach.

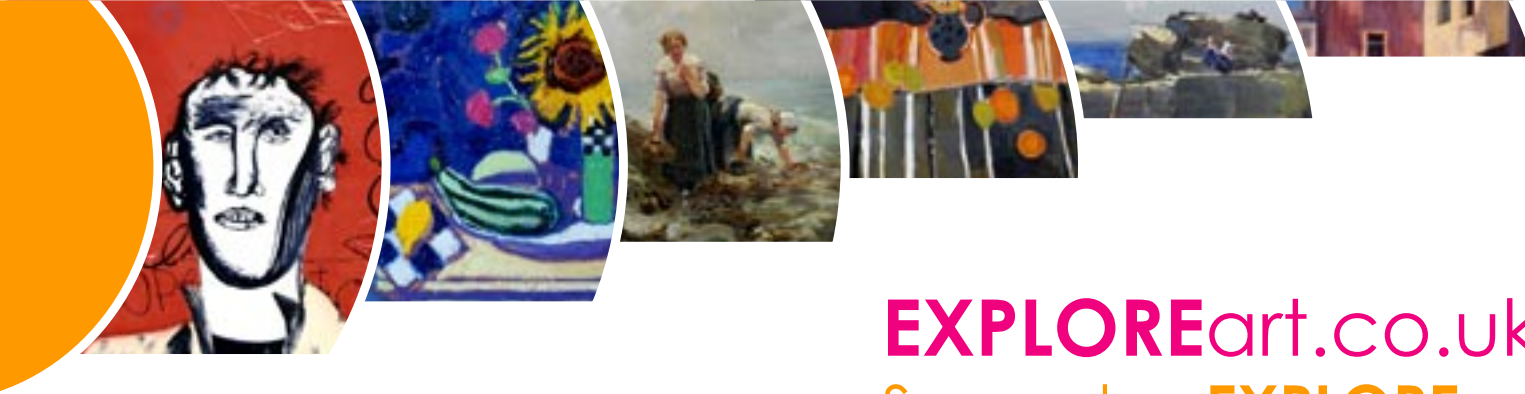
● Evaluation

Verbal evaluation by children
Photographic and video
Written evaluation by children

● Legacy

Pupils will have an understanding of the concept of the reversed image which is crucial to most printmaking activities plus an understanding of the process of printing an Intaglio print.

As well as instilling a greater understanding of printmaking this activity can form the basis for more complex printmaking opportunities.



● The Activity

After viewing the etchings from the Collection, paying particular attention to the use of line through weight of line, cross hatching, texture and use of negative drawn areas, the pupils can take an existing drawing of their own, place the acetate on top and scratch in the lines experimenting with mark-making using the drypointing tools.

The plates produced can be proofed at any stage by applying the intaglio ink, wiping the surface, placing on the printing paper and passing through the press. Several prints can be passed through at the same time, as size allows and different rates of progress will allow for shared use of the press. Experiments with various degrees of wiping or selective wiping will give different tonal effects.