Gallery Session: Research & Record

A gallery based session led by designer Bethan Durie

**Summary:**
This session by designer Bethan Durie is linked directly to Bethan’s own style of working and focuses on sketchbook practice and creative processes, as well as developing visual literacy and observational skills. Based in the 20th Century design gallery, students will be encouraged to analyse, document and interpret objects from the Museum’s collection developing their critical analysis skills. The students will work to different constraints including time, colour and media that will encourage them to work outside their comfort zone and allow spontaneity to play a part in the drawing process. The activities are a form of idea generation encouraging the students to view their sketchbooks as a place to experiment and develop individual designs. The tasks can be applied to different areas of art and design practise and are aimed to be taken back into the classroom and incorporated into future work.

**Information about the Designer:**

Bethan Durie is an image-maker and designer who originally studied Graphic Design, and went on to complete an MA at the Royal College of Art in Visual Communication in 2015. Her practice incorporates drawing, collage and printmaking, using intertwining themes of artefact and memory, drawing on personal recollections to construct narrative. Predominantly working to create mono-prints, her work builds up layers of shape and colour, with imagery varying from domestic interiors to deconstructed patterns paying attention to textures of fabric, patterns in

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wood and outlines of objects. Bethan currently works as the Assistant Director at Herrick Gallery in Piccadilly, as well as running a drawing collective “DRAW” with fellow RCA alumni.

**Galleries visited:**
20th Century Design Gallery, Room 76, Level 3

**National Curriculum Links:**

**Art & Design**
- Produce creative work, exploring their ideas and recording their experiences
- Become proficient in drawing, painting, sculpture and other art, craft and design techniques
- Evaluate and analyse creative works using the language of art, craft and design
- Know about great artists, craft makers and designers, and understand the historical and cultural development of their art forms.
- Students will learn a range of techniques to explore their ideas

**DT**
- Evaluation of past and present design and technology, they develop a critical understanding of its impact on daily life and the wider world
- Develop and communicate design ideas using annotated sketches, detailed plans, 3-D and mathematical modelling, oral and digital presentations and computer-based tools

*This session also meets key criteria for Edexcel, AQA and OCR DT Specifications

**Arts Award Links:**

**Bronze Award**
Unit 1: Part A, Part B & Part C (Some follow up work required)

**Silver Award**
Unit 1: Part C & D (Some follow up work required)

**Follow up activities:**
- Use the V&A website (collections.vam.ac.uk) to research the objects from the galleries that inspired your sketchbook drawings. What can you find out about the artist or designer who created these objects or artworks?
- Find other ways to document and record research and ideas in your sketchbook – add these to your drawing and annotations from the gallery. You could add layering and texture through cut out postcards, coloured card or photographs. Use your sketches as a starting point for an art or design project.

**Booking Information:**
Available: **25-29 September, 9-13 October and 23-27 April**
Timing: 90 minutes, starting at 11.00 & 13.00 daily, during the above dates.
Cost: FREE
Capacity: Maximum 25 students per session

**Booking is essential: 020 7942 2200**

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