Burwell Village College Primary

Painting - Realism

Realism is an art style where artists try to show people, places, and objects as they really look in everyday life. Instead of making things look magical, perfect, or imaginary, realist artists painted ordinary scenes honestly and carefully.

* careful observation * lifelike proportions * realistic colours * everyday subjects

Key Vocabulary

techniques	Techniques are the specific ways an artist uses tools and materials to achieve visual effects and express their ideas.
colour palette	A colour palette includes the range of colours an artist uses in a painting to create harmony, mood and visual balance.
layering	Apply one layer of paint over another to build colour, texture or depth.
blending	Smoothly mix colours together to create a gradual change.

What is a wash?

A wash is a thin layer of watered-down paint that is brushed over a large area, often to create a background.

Flat wash – one even colour across the whole area
Graded wash – the colour gradually changes from dark to light

Cynthia Poole is a contemporary Realist and Hyperrealist artist known for painting everyday objects in incredible detail. She was born in Zimbabwe and now lives and works in London.

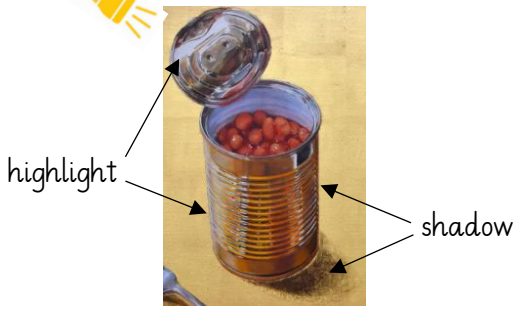




Her paintings are very realistic and often look almost like photographs. She is interested in the colours, shapes, shiny surfaces and logos of ordinary products.

Shadows & Highlights

Cynthia Poole uses underpainting to build up dark shadows and highlighting to create bright areas of reflected light, helping her paintings look realistic and three-dimensional.



Harmonious Colours

Harmonious colours are next to each other on the colour wheel.

They look good together and create a calm feeling.



Monochromatic Colours

One base colour is used to create different tints, shades and tones.

tint = colour + white
shade = colour + black
tone = colour + grey

