

MARJORIE GILL: EKPHRASTIC WRITING



AIMS OF WORKSHOP

To learn new ways of approaching writing specifically ekphrastic writing, which is writing inspired by an artwork, and produce as much raw material as possible, which can be developed and refined at a later point.

BACKGROUND

For Autumn Term 2014 Jupiter Artland were pleased to welcome their first Poet in Residence, Marjorie Gill, who has been working from Jupiter's Arthut once a week. In this session she will talk about herself and her writing practice, and then about what makes good writing, where good writing actually comes from. The process of ekphrastic writing will also be discussed, and how, with close observation, the artwork often holds the details that make the writing around it successful.

METHOD

The session will be based on 4 sculptures, Stone House (Andy Goldsworthy), Weeping Girls (Laura Ford), Firmament (Antony Gormley), Suck (Anish Kapoor). Pupils will participate in 4 introductory exercises that help with a 'way in' to the pieces such as making lists of physical words, close observation of a small piece of the sculpture. Lists and words will be shared. After that initial warm up, the students will be given a specific voice as an option for approaching the artworks in a longer write – around ten to fifteen minutes. We will finish with Time to go back to the sculptures to develop something already written or create a piece with Marjorie.

RESOURCES

Pens, pencils. notebooks

CURRICULUM FOR EXCELLENCE

SUBJECT LINKS

Expressive Arts

TYPICAL DAY PLAN

Time	Activity
9.45-10.00	Introduction to artist and background
10.00-10.45	Tour of 4 sculptures and introductory exercises
10.45-11.00	Longer writing session
11.00-11.15	Break
11.15-11.45	Writing session independently or with poet in residence
11.45-12.00	Reflection session