

museum of arts and design

BRIAN CLARKE: THE ART OF LIGHT FOR KIDS!



THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

Who is Brian Clarke?

Brian Clarke is a British artist known for his stained glass, drawings, and paintings. Clarke creates stained glass for skyscrapers, museums, theaters, and houses of worship. Did you know he made the world's largest stained-glass window? It is 266 feet wide, which is almost the length of 30 school buses.

What is stained glass?

Stained glass is the colored glass used for making decorative windows and other objects through which light passes. Traditionally, the colored glass is held together by a framework made out of lead. However, stained glass you'll see today has no lead holding it together!



Where have you seen stained glass before?

Sketch What You See!



Choose one of Brian Clarke's screens or drawings. Take some time to sketch what you see. You can draw the entire work of art or a detail you like. Try to fill the page.

Now that you've made a sketch, what else do you notice about this work of art? What do you see that you didn't notice earlier? Turn to a friend and share your ideas.



Time for Deep Looking!

Pick a panel and sit down in front of it.
It's time to do some deep looking...



This artwork reminds me of the time I...

This artwork makes me think about...



This artwork reminds me of a place where...



WOWOWOW!

Take a walk around the gallery. Brian Clarke uses lots of unexpected imagery in his work. What are some of the things you see that surprise you? Write down your top three surprising observations:

A dark blue background with white and orange geometric shapes and lines. There are three large white shapes for writing observations, labeled 1!, 2!, and 3!. The shapes are irregular polygons. The background also features several jagged lines in white and orange, creating a dynamic, abstract pattern.

1!

2!

3!

Artists are interested in exploring ideas, feelings, and experiences when creating their artwork. Here are ways artists express themselves:


Color

Pick your favorite glass panel. What colors do you see? What emotions do you think are expressed in this work? Write down some words that come to mind:

Excitement _____

Loneliness _____

Calm _____



DISCUSS WITH A FRIEND! How does the color of the glass change when the light shines through it?

Line

Line is used to convey movement or texture. Smooth, wavy lines can be calm, whereas jagged, sharp lines have lots of energy.

Walk carefully through the gallery in a jagged line, and then try walking in a wavy line. How do you feel when you walk in these different ways? Does Clarke use more wavy or jagged lines?

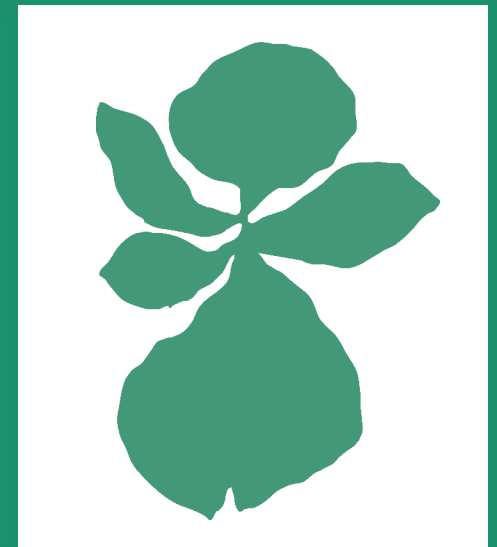
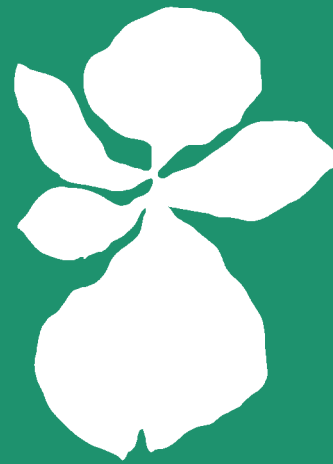


Space

Most nights Brian Clarke likes to draw and paint at his home in London. Visit the fifth floor and find the *Night Orchids* drawings and choose your favorite.

Space in art is frequently explained as positive space and negative space.

- + The area in the artwork filled with something like lines or color is known as positive space.
- The area around and between the lines and color is known as negative space.



SHARE WITH A FRIEND OR FAMILY MEMBER! Look at the drawing you picked. Where do you think the negative space is? Would you fill the negative space in Brian Clarke's work? What would you fill it with? Why?

MAD Needs New Stained Glass Windows!

