



COMMUNITY ROUTES

COLLAGE PROJECT

By Claire Cotterill



ROUNDHOUSE



'Community Routes' is an exciting new collaboration between Roundhouse, Birmingham and the Canal and River Trust. We'll be co-creating self-guided walks from the Roundhouse to various destinations in the local area with local people. We'll be exploring its rich heritage - the people, places and their unique stories, which we want to share with others. This research will inspire new artworks to be exhibited at Roundhouse in 2021.

Tom Tebby
The Kong and I

This is where you come in, we're so happy you're taking part! As a local resident, we really want to gather your ideas and inspiration around the area you live in. What matters to you, what would you share with visitors who may know nothing about your area?

Enjoy Creating !!

Welcome To Our Project !

We're inviting you to get creative and use this kit as a starting point. We'd love you to make a collage, which you feel represents something special you want to share about your community. There are no rules with this and we can't wait to see your inspired creations !

In this booklet I've shared a little of the history of collage and shared the work of some artists who've used collage as an artform - there's a wide range of approach and subject matters for you to explore. More locally, in 2019, Birmingham Collage Collective was born and they've kindly allowed us to share some of their fantastic work here. I've included a 'How To' section and some website and YouTube links to get you started, I've found them inspiring, I hope you do too !



A LITTLE HISTORY

Collage as an artform has existed for over 100 years and it's thought that it began with the artists Georges Braque and Picasso. Many other artists followed suit, expanding and experimenting with these early approaches. Collage techniques were not only adopted during the Cubist movement, but used by artists in Dadaism, where they introduced Photomontage; collage constructed from photographs. This approach was often used as a means of expressing political dissent. Artists such as John Heartfield, began creating photomontage to fight fascism and created powerful anti-Nazi imagery, which he handed out in the streets, we're honoured that his grandson has given us permission to share one of his works here. The artist, Hannah Hoch, also created iconic works at this time too, with her series 'Klebebilder'.

The surrealists used collage as a technique - artists such as Max Ernst began to blend the visual and verbal into his work. In the 1940's, Henry Matisse developed a technique he called 'cut-outs'. These artworks were often inspired by the natural world, at other times they were abstract. Initially they were small in size, but they soon became as large as murals. Collage continued to be adopted in further art movements such as Pop Art; Here I should mention a famous Pop Artist with Birmingham roots, Peter Phillips, who has also kindly allowed us to share his work. It's claimed that Collage revolutionised Modern Art.

Kurt Tucholsky



John Heartfield - Kurt Tucholsky



Peter Phillips - Hunter

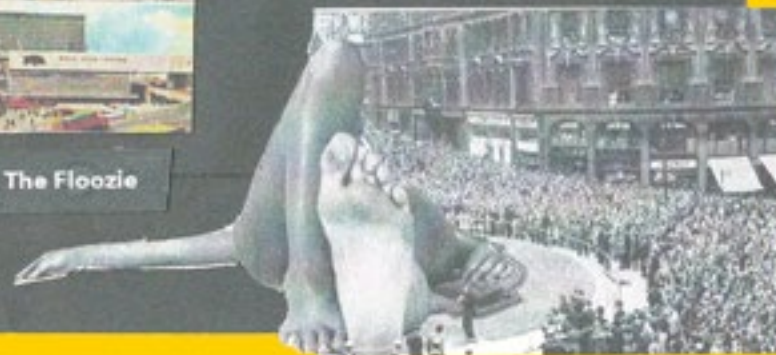


Over 100 years later, artists continue to use this medium as a form of creative expression, with a wide range of approaches and subject matter. In 2019, Birmingham Collage Collective was born and I've shared some of their fantastic work and that of other contemporary artists further afield. I hope you can take some time to explore the work of some of these artists to gain inspiration before you begin. Perhaps if you find a passion for this medium, you could become part of Birmingham's collage movement too!



Adam Wynn - The Floozie

When in Birmingham - Fiona Cullinan



How to COLLAGE



Collage is a wonderful and very accessible medium to create art and it's also a way of recycling materials that may have ended up as landfill, so not only are you doing something very creative, you're also helping to save the environment in a small way!



We have provided our collage kit as a starting point and some essential materials you need to begin; a decent quality piece of paper or card, to fix your collage to and a glue stick, or you could use pva. You can create your collage using old magazines, wrapping paper, newspapers, scrap material and natural materials, such as leaves and seeds. You could use photographs you've taken yourself, explore what's available in local craft shops, even scrounge from family, friends and neighbours! If you can stick it down with glue, you can use it - it's as wide as your imagination! Please feel free to use anything you've been able to gather; it all makes your collage uniquely yours! We've included some heritage materials too, specific to your area, which we hope will inspire you and you may want to include

1. Gather the materials you have collected together and those provided in your collage box. It is useful to separate your materials into colour ranges, textures and text.
2. Using your Community Routes' walk as a starting point, think about the essential things you want to portray in your artwork. Imagine no one knows anything about your area, what would you like to share with them? Is it the wildlife, the history, colours, nature, the mood, the season?

3. Begin cutting and tearing your materials and composing/placing them on the page. It's useful to do this without glue initially. Think about contrasting shape, colour, size and texture- are there any words you would like to use? Cut these letters or words out of magazines, or create your own. The important thing is to play and have fun, there is no wrong or right way in this!
4. When you're ready, start to glue down your collage materials, begin with the background and build up from there. Allow time for the glue to dry a little as you build your layers. If you have access to pens, paint, crayons or pastels, you can add these materials as you go.

5. Once you've completed your collage, please send a photo to us by email to - hello@roundhousebirmingham.org.uk, along with your name, the first part of your postcode and any social media links we may tag you in!



We can't wait to see what you create!

inspiration

As always, there's a lot of information and inspiration to be found on the internet. We've found some interesting articles and links for you. To explore the work of both historical and contemporary artists is always inspiring. It's only a drop in the ocean, but hopefully enough to get you started !

History

We were really pleased that the grandson of John Heartfield and Peter Phillips have given permission for us to include their work in this booklet. John.J.Heartfield has set up an online exhibition to both share his grandfather's art and to support the work of other collage artists who share a passion for political protest. You can find out more here -

<https://www.johnheartfield.com/>

To view more from Peter Phillips, Pop Artist, please go to -

<https://www.peterphillips.com>

To find out more about Hannah Hoch -

<https://www.moma.org/art>

Another fantastic collage artist is Nigel Henderson -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AC0ULy5Rn-c>



Interesting articles

<https://mymodernmet.com/collage-art-collage/>

<https://magazine.artland.com/the-history-of-collage-art/>

<https://magazine.artland.com/5-contemporary-collage-artists/>

Contemporary Collage

<https://www.birminghamcollagecollective.com>

<https://www.instagram.com/thecollageclub/?hl=en>

https://www.instagram.com/collage_expo/?hl=en

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UeYP8ssD_BM

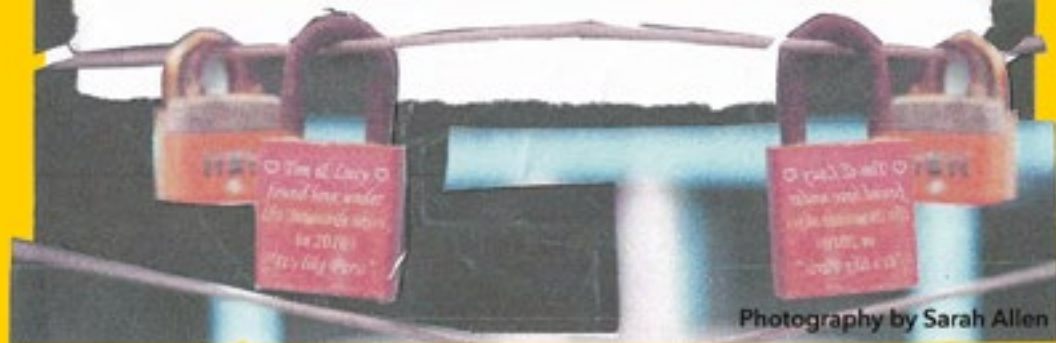
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G0cwle4dRYY>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LAFeUu3xK8Q>

How To ...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bE2H5iqIPrk>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sLooH5Y_Rk8



Photography by Sarah Allen

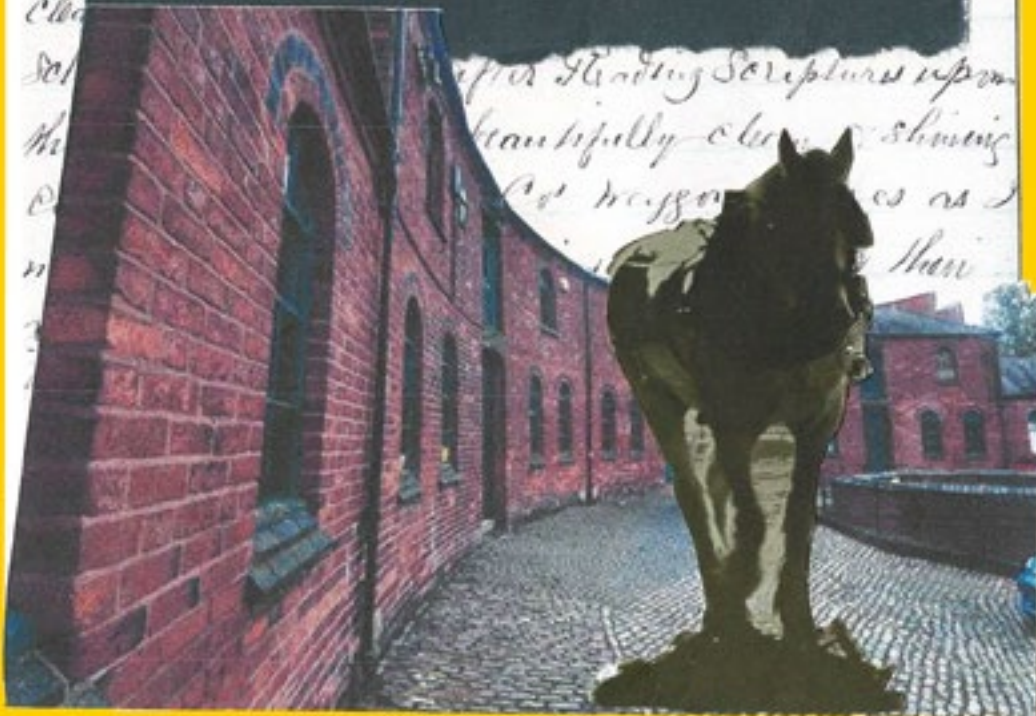
Community Routes and Roundhouse Birmingham

Community Routes is a Roundhouse Birmingham project with support from Canal & River Trust.

Our lead artist, Claire Cotterill, and a range friends and neighbours, have come together to create tours of Ladywood and Birmingham City Centre. We want to help people to **#seethecitydifferently!** These tours will inspire new artworks for exhibition @ Roundhouse in 2021.

We're supported by our friends at the National Trust, Canal & River Trust and National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Canal & River Trust is one of our parent organisations. They also look after over 2000 miles of waterways, including the canals in Birmingham. They believe, like we do, that life is better by water and that a stroll, cycle or paddle along the canal is a great way to feel happier and healthier.



A Little About Me !

I'm a multi-disciplinary artist based in Birmingham and have always enjoyed working with people, creating art together with people of all ages and abilities has always been a passion ! I love to create visual stories celebrating people, places and their histories. To view more of my projects, please go to - <https://www.clairecotterill.com> or follow me @

https://www.instagram.com/claire_cotterill/?hl=en

<https://www.facebook.com/ClaireCotterill.MosaicDesign/>

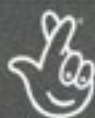


Many thanks to the various people and organisations, that have given us permission to share their artwork and photography; John.H.Heartfield, Peter Phillips, Norman Bartlam, Mac Joseph, Friends of Edgbaston Reservoir, West Midlands Photography Collective, Birmingham Collage Collective and Bertz Associates.

We really appreciate your support !



Canal &
River Trust



HERITAGE
FUND



National
Trust

Collage Kit © 2020 Claire Cotterill.
www.clairecotterill.com