

Jutta Koether
Seasons and Sacraments

Family Guide



Jutta Koether is an artist from Germany who works as a painter, performer, musician and writer. Through her artwork, she wants us to think about painting in a different way. Some people think painting is old fashioned, but Jutta Koether's work shows us that it can still be used as an exciting way to tell people about the stories and ideas around us today. Her work in this exhibition also tells us about the cycles that happen in our lives and how we change over our lifetime.

Jutta Koether's artwork for this exhibition is inspired by the paintings of French artist Nicolas Poussin (1594 – 1665). She wanted to show her own thoughts about the paintings that Poussin made, so made her own versions of his paintings in her own style and using her own choice of materials.

Jutta Koether's paintings look nothing like Poussin's original paintings (painted over 300 years ago), this is because Jutta Koether is trying to tell us about the ideas that Poussin had through her own style. It's as if two people from different times were trying to tell us the same story. We all see and remember things differently and use different words to tell people about what we experience or feel.

This family guide has been designed to help you to work together to explore the exhibition and try making some of your own artwork inspired by the exhibition. You will need a pencil to complete the activities in this guide. Ask the stewards in the galleries for pencils and clipboards.

There are further resources and exhibition guides available in the Reading Room on the 2nd floor, if you would like to learn more about the exhibition.

Some people say that Jutta Koether's work is 'bad' painting. What do you think makes a 'bad' painting?

Ask each person in your family what they think a 'bad' painting might look like. You could write or draw your ideas here.

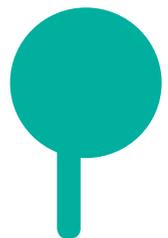


We might think that a 'bad' painting is a painting that is messy or doesn't look like anything in particular, but there are lots of good paintings that could look like this, for example [abstract paintings](#).

The 'bad painting' that Jutta Koether is interested in means a painting that doesn't stick to rules about what we might think is beautiful or how we think a painting should look.

'Bad paintings' can sometimes be funny or unusual, and show the artists own style.

What is the best painting you've ever seen?
Does anyone in your family have a favourite painting?



Jutta Koether uses lots of complicated, interconnected lines and overlapping shapes in her paintings. This makes her paintings look exciting and full of movement.

Can you find these shapes hiding in her paintings?
What do you think the shapes are?



These paintings show each of the seasons. Which season can you see in each painting?

Look closely at the 'Seasons' paintings and find some more interesting shapes.

Draw the shapes you have found over the shapes on this page, to create a layered picture just like Jutta Koether does.

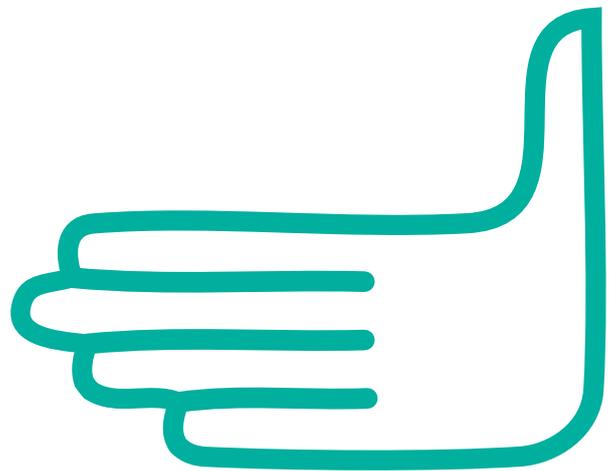
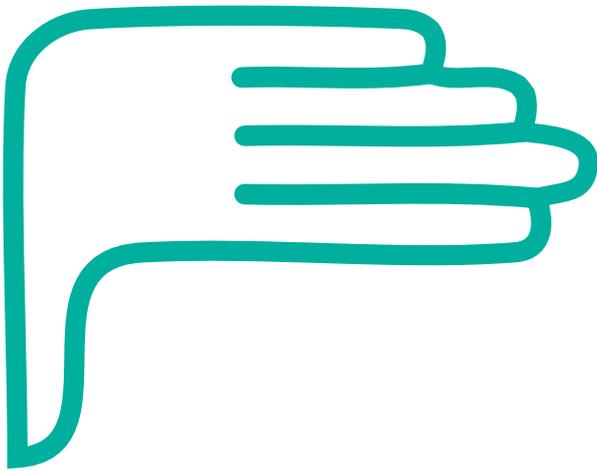


Tweet your drawings to @arnolfiniarts

Some of Jutta Koether's paintings look like windows.

What do you think she was imagining she was looking out onto?

Find a window in Arnolfini or make a viewfinder window with your hands like this:

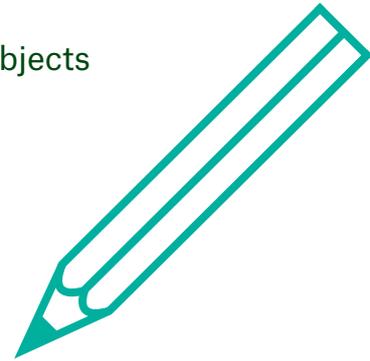
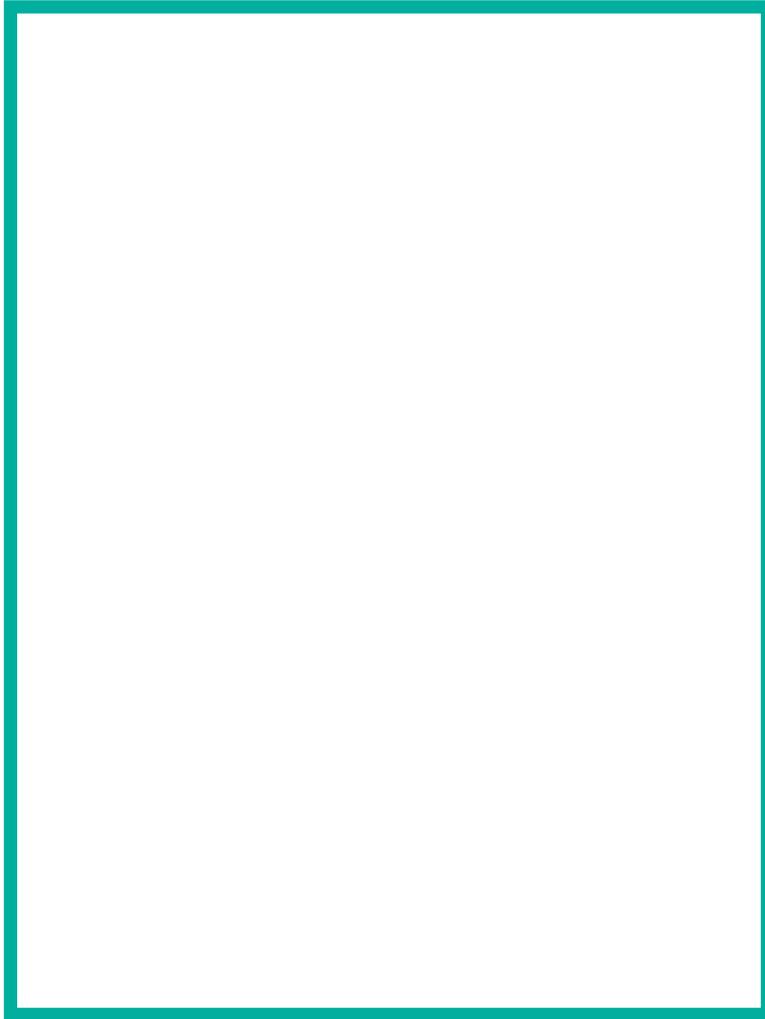


Look at the things inside your window frame. Jutta Koether uses lines to show the movement, motions and energy of what she sees in her scene.

Draw lines to show the movement and energy of the things in your scene. Think about the direction they move in and the way that they move. Do they move in a smooth or bouncy way? How many different kinds of lines can you draw?

Jutta Koether doesn't just use painted canvases to make her artwork. When artists use collections of different materials and objects to change how we look at a space this is called an [installation](#).

Use this space to write or draw a list of the materials and objects that you can spot in the galleries:



Do the collections of objects remind you of anything? Have a go at making your own installation at home:

Pick your favourite season. Is it spring, summer, autumn or winter?

Collect objects that remind you of this season. They could remind you of the season because of their colour, texture, shape or smell.

Arrange the objects in a space.

Share a photo of your installation on our Facebook page [facebook.com/arnolfiniarts](https://www.facebook.com/arnolfiniarts)

Jutta Koether Key Words

Abstract

An abstract artist uses shapes and colours to express his or her emotions and ideas. Just as we don't always know what other people are thinking, we don't always know what abstract art shows, but if you asked the artist they could explain the painting to you.

Installation

A collection of objects and materials that an artist has chosen or made, that changes how we experience or look at a space. This could be small or take up a whole room.

Multi disciplinary

An artist who works in lots of different ways like Jutta Koether who uses writing, painting, performance, installation and music to create her artwork.

Inspiration

Someone or something that gives us a good idea. Jutta Koether was inspired by Nicolas Poussin's paintings.

'Bad painting'

A painting that doesn't stick to rules about what we might think is beautiful or how we think a painting should look. 'Bad paintings' can sometimes be funny or unusual, and show the artists own style.

Sacrament

A religious act or ceremony in the Christian faith. There are seven sacraments that mark important points in someone's life.

Network painting

Paintings that are not shown in the gallery in the usual way (flat on the wall). Jutta Koether's paintings are hung in the galleries in an unusual way as we can see the back of some of them, they also act as a stage for her performances.

Family Events Programme

We Are Family

Saturdays 25 May, 29 June, 27 July, 31 August, 28 September, 26 October, 30 November, 28 December, 1pm – 5pm, suggested donation £2, drop in (unless otherwise stated)

Join our learning team on the last Saturday of every month to explore Arnolfini's exhibitions and events through exciting and engaging activities for families to do together. Visit our website and Facebook page closer to the event date for further details on this and our family film screenings.

Family Film Screenings

Saturdays 29 June, 27 July, 31 August, 10am – 12pm, suggested donation £2, children must be accompanied by an adult

As part of our family programme of events *We Are Family*, come along to our film screening especially for families and linked to the exhibitions and events at Arnolfini. Suitable for all ages (unless otherwise stated).

Seeds of Change Family Activities

Castle Park Thursday 30 and Friday 31 May, 12 – 4pm, free drop in

Join us at Castle Park (see map at arnolfini.org.uk/ballastseedgarden) with a bird's eye view of the *Floating Ballast Seed Garden* for an afternoon of exciting plant activities for all the family. Meet University of Bristol volunteers and Arnolfini staff who will tell you about the amazing garden and the plants that you can see growing.

Festival of Nature Community Garden and Activities Tent

Saturday 15 June, 10am – 6pm & Sunday 16 June, 11am – 5pm, free

Learn about Bristol's *Floating Ballast Seed Garden* and take part in activities exploring ballast seed plants and the journeys they made to reach Bristol. Discover how seeds grow, where our fruit and vegetables come from and what plants sound like.

Festival of Nature Story Hunt Boat Tour

Saturday 15, Sunday 16 & Saturday 22 June, 2.30pm – 4pm, boat tours leaving from Amphitheatre Ferry stop, £5/£3 concs, free under 12's, booking required

Join Cassandra Wye, our International Storyteller, on an adventure to the *Floating Ballast Seed Garden* and discover the secret stories that are hidden there.

Sea Shanties and Folk Songs Workshop and Boat Tour

Saturday 31 August 1pm – 5pm drop in to the Light Studio and Dark Studio, free Boat trip 4.45pm – 6.15pm, meet at Arnolfini foyer, free but limited capacity, booking required

As part of our *We Are Family* programme come along to our drop in sea shanty workshop and other sea inspired family activities. Then book your place on a singing trip down the river to our *Floating Ballast Seed Garden*.

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