





Creole SIMAKE

Located on the edge of Holland Park in Kensington, Leighton House Museum is the former home and studio of the celebrated Victorian artist, Frederic, Lord Leighton (1830-1896). The house combines studio, living and entertaining space, and a lovely garden. Leighton House is now regarded as one of the most remarkable buildings of the nineteenth century, not least because of the extraordinary domed and tiled Arab Hall on the ground floor. Today it contains an exceptional collection of paintings and sculpture by Leighton and his contemporaries, hosts temporary exhibitions, special public events and an extensive learning programme, and is also regularly used for photography and film shoots.

With this Create and Make you will learn the story of Clytie, discover Leighton's painting, do some research and be inspired to create your own picture, mini sculpture or cartoon strip.

You will need art materials such as pencils, colouring pencils, paints, plasticine, and ideally access to the internet and a printer.





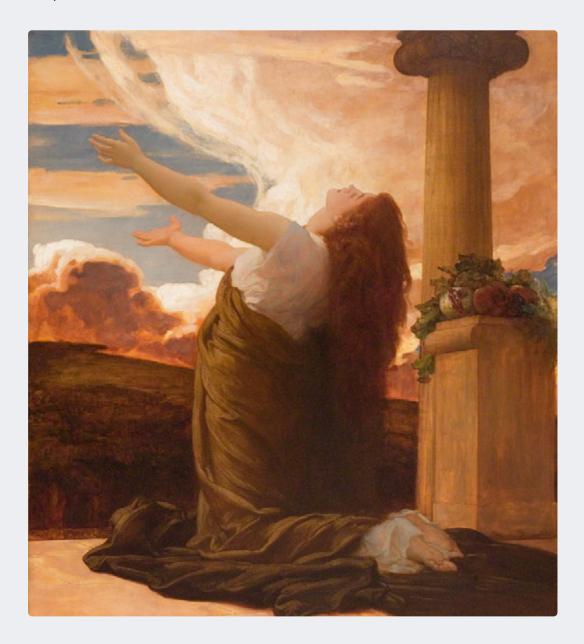




Look at this painting by Frederic, Lord Leighton and circle the colours you can see:

Orange • Blue • Red • Brown • White • Pink

Purple • Green • Yellow • Black • Gold





Circle how you think she is feeling:

Upset • Happy • Distressed • Desperate • Bored • Relaxed • Tired



Circle what you think she might be doing:

Praying • Pleading • Singing • Sleeping • Waiting

Begging • Dancing • Worshipping

From what you have circled, what do you think is going on in this painting?

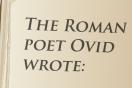


Curator Daniel says ...

"Leighton was fascinated by the Ancient Greek and Roman past. He particularly liked the myths and stories which gave him plenty of ideas for his work. He was taught Ancient Greek and Latin as a boy. The Ancient Greeks and Romans told stories that helped them understand the world around them."

This painting is telling the story of Clytie, an oceanid or sea nymph, who fell in love with the sun god Apollo. But Apollo was in love with another girl, Leucothea. Clytie was heartbroken and jealous. She knew that Leucothea's

father would be angry about his daughter's relationship with Apollo, so she told him. She thought this might be a way to win Apollo. Leucothea's father was furious and he punished his daughter. Apollo only thought less of Clytie and still did not return her love. Clytie was even more upset by this. Every day Apollo would pull the sun across the sky with his chariot. Eventually Clytie gave up and lay out in the sun for 9 days, pining away, not eating or drinking, gazing at **Apollo's chariot** as it passed across the sky.



SHE LIVED
ONLY ON DEW
AND TEARS,
AND DID NOT
STIR FROM
THE GROUND

On the ninth day she was transformed into a flower, a flower which turns its head to follow the sun.



Do you know which flower faces the sun? It looks like the sun, with bright yellow petals and an orange centre. You can eat the seeds and make oil from them too.



Why don't you draw the sunflower that Clytie became?



If you want to find out more about the Ancient Greeks and Romans, see what Horrible Histories have to say

www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/shows/horrible-histories





Frederic, Lord Leighton says ...

"Clytie was my last painting. I chose all the colours to make it look like sunset. I died before I could finish it. Does it look unfinished to you?

It's your turn to create! You can either tell the story of Clytie like a comic strip or, like me you can choose your favourite moment or image from the story and draw that. I would make hundreds of studies and sketches before starting a large painting like this, so don't be afraid to practise first. You could use pencil, colouring pencils, crayons or paints.

Can you do a search for other artists inspired by the story of Clytie?

Here's a sculpture made by my friend George Frederic Watts. If you come to my house you will see the portrait he painted of me, hanging on the stairs."

www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/watts-clytie-n01768

"You could try modelling Clytie out of plasticine or clay?"







