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LAND, SEA AND SKY

A CELEBRATION OF INDUSTRY AND THE NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT AT THE TEES TRANSPORTER BRIDGE

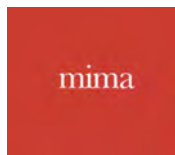
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LAND, SEA AND SKY

A CELEBRATION OF INDUSTRY AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT AT THE TEES TRANSPORTER BRIDGE

EDITED BY TOSH WARWICK

Foreword by Ray Mallon

Mayor of Middlesbrough

I am extremely pleased to introduce Land, Sea and Sky by Trinity Catholic College, produced to mark the exhibition held throughout May 2013 at the Tees Transporter Bridge. Showcasing the natural beauty, industrial landscape and engineering prowess of not only the Tees Valley but the wider region, this collection epitomises much of what is great about our area.

By combining the heritage, endurance and progress epitomised by the Tees Transporter Bridge with the potential, development and nurturing of talent education offers for our future, this collection is a celebration. It illustrates the ability, creativity and skill possessed by students in our region, and the sense of pride in our environment and history and its potential to inspire.

Ray Mallon
Mayor of Middlesbrough

Trinity Catholic College Foreword

Welcome to Land, Sea and Sky by Sixth Form students of Trinity Catholic College. These recurrent themes run through artists' work across time and space and the work of the students brings a new interpretation by adopting a local context. Our students have explored this theme and collaborated with the team from the Tees Transporter Bridge to produce their own personal responses to the environment that surrounds them. The students have found this an enlightening experience and are grateful for the chance to be able to find a new perspective on a familiar area. Their work is a true celebration of a local community that we should all be proud of.

As a department we encourage all our students to embrace a sense of independence and to develop their own individual style which reflects their personality. Over the course of the year the students have explored a broad range of materials and techniques which has led them to confidently express their thoughts and ideas in their work. The members of staff within Trinity Catholic College's Art Department and those from the Tees Transporter Bridge have worked alongside the students to turn this exciting and unique opportunity into reality. Enjoy!

Trinity Catholic College

"Blessed are they who
see beautiful things in
humble places where
other people see nothing"
- Camille Pissarro.

Introduction

The Tees Transporter Bridge was opened by Prince Arthur of Connaught on 17th October 1911 and has provided crossings of the River Tees to millions of passengers on its gondola over the past century. The Bridge has survived collisions, bombings during both World Wars, several threats of closure, and has borne witness to vast economic, industrial and social changes in the surrounding hinterland.

The historical significance of the Bridge, the longest transporter bridge in the world, was recognised in 1985 by its listing as a Grade II* Listed Building. Its prominence as a local landmark was further enhanced in 1993 both by the installation of floodlights that illuminate the Bridge in the winter months and the receipt of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers' highest honour, the Engineering Heritage Award. In recent years the Bridge has expanded as one of the region's key heritage locations. In July 2000 the Transporter Bridge Visitor Centre was officially opened by Fred Dibnah. In 2011 the Tees Transporter Bridge received a £2.6m Heritage Lottery Fund award to support refurbishment and upgrade work including refurbishment of the gondola, lift access to the upper walkway, enhancement work to the Winding House and Visitor Centre, and the development of new visitor activities and resources.

As well as continuing to serve Middlesbrough as a key transport and heritage site, the Bridge has featured on both the big and small screen, including in the movie Billy Elliot and BBC series Auf Wiedersehen Pet, and over the past decade has become the home of extreme sports including bungee jumps, zip slides and abseils, in turn raising several hundred thousand pounds for charitable causes.

Tosh Warwick

Tees Transporter Bridge Education, Learning and Events Officer



Lucia Maggiorini

Fine Art - Relief Sculpture

In my final piece I have tried to show how industry has affected the natural landscape by taking different aspects of my local area and combining them. I have added bolts and screws into the trees to show nature's slow destruction from man and industry. A glimpse of the Transporter is seen through the avenue of trees reminding us that nature is a formidable force.

I've chosen to use blues, purples and yellows to express how pollution is affecting and changing nature.



Frances Severn

Textiles - 3D

I've been inspired by the colours, smells and the blossoming nights of summer. The work of Lucy Renshaw has influenced me to re-upholster an old chair with modern, floral fabric inspired by nature. I have embellished it with beads and embroidery to emphasize the natural forms. A vintage piece with a modern twist!



Chris Baines

Fine Art – Relief

“When I say artist I mean the one who is building things...some with a brush – some with a shovel – some choose a pen” - Jackson Pollock



James Morrison

Fine Art – Painting

Although I have lived in Middlesbrough all of my life, I have always been fascinated with local landmarks such as The Gare. Ironically, it was this aspect which influenced my choice to create a final piece based on “the landmark beach”. The challenge of studying this local environment was intriguing as it represents childhood memories and a place that has been greatly included in my life so far. In the creation of my final piece I have worked closely with different variations of paint, chalk and also real sand to achieve the realistically gritty effect of Middlesbrough. Through my final piece I hope to show people how locations can become such an important aspect in someone's life.



Olivia Kiss

Textiles – 3D Fashion

Woodlands and forests interest me so I wanted to explore the local area particularly the avenue of trees in Acklam. I liked the changing autumnal colours of the leaves and the sense of movement created as they float to the ground. I am trying to make a statement in my work about how nature should be protected. I used a variety of textiles techniques and materials to make and embellish my bodice.



Daniel Taylor

Fine Art - Drawing

Industry and tradition are the focus of my work. I have incorporated the famous industrial landmark of the Transporter Bridge from my home town of Middlesbrough and framed traditional, nautical images such as a lighthouse and ships which are symbolic of our export trade. The idea of a lighthouse guiding a ship could represent how we should try and keep our traditional values. For my piece I have created a very detailed drawing on the back of an old map which gives an interesting, vintage feel and also represents travel.

Kirsty Stevenson

Fine Art - Painting

My work explores different views of the environment collaged into one landscape. This includes infamous aspects such as the Transporter, Dorman Museum, housing, the polluted atmosphere. My work contrasts the natural landscape with industry.

I was inspired by Monet and have explored his style of painting in my work. I have deliberately painted the supposedly "ugly things" within Middlesbrough in a "pretty" style to show that all things can be beautiful to some.



Amy Sewell

Fine Art - Painting

To me the environment is changing and with change comes conflict and difference. I was inspired by the industry within the town of Middlesbrough and the different shapes that divide the space around it. I have studied fragmented sections of the Transporter to form the basis of my painting.

I combined traditional and modern techniques by using and experimenting with plaster to create a textured surface.

I was influenced by the abstract painting of Joan Earp which shows people in the environment. I deliberately used vivid blue colours as I found it ironic that the colours are so beautiful yet it's inspired by an industrial setting.





Elizabeth McKeone

Fine Art – Painting

Dark and smog defines the stereotypical atmosphere of Middlesbrough. My work focuses on this factor however lit from under the clouds represents hope. This is to show that there is good underneath the bad and the outer layer can look really grim but from inside and actually living within the town you get to know that it isn't as bad as it is portrayed.



Sarah Hansen

Fine Art

"Art is not what you see, but what you make others see" - Edgar Degas



Amy Gray

Fine Art – Painting

Lowry was born and grew up in Salford. His work reflected the roots and experiences from living in an industrial townscape. I have identified similarities in my own upbringing in the Middlesbrough community and environment. I have portrayed memories and past times in my work. The colours I have used have captured the industrial pollution of the Middlesbrough skyline. I have made connections between then and now.



Fiona Gill

Fine Art – Illustration

I was inspired by the diversity of the North Yorkshire landscape - from the heavy industry to the naturalistic and historic.

I used a scene from Fountains Abbey to illustrate Idun and her golden apples- a figure from Norse mythology. The picture blends the real life location with imagination through vivid ink work.



Jude Nolan

Fine Art - Relief Sculpture

The trees and Transporter are combined together to show my roots to Middlesbrough. In my piece I have tried to show how nature and industry can grow together harmoniously. I have experimented with different materials such as plaster to make the tree roots and wires to make the Transporter. Both trees and the Bridge share a strong structure that could represent the bond between community.



Daniel Shippey

Fine Art - Painting

When I was younger, I thought growing up in Middlesbrough was unpleasant. It's gritty, boring, and dull on a bad day. I couldn't wait for the day when I'd leave Middlesbrough for good - probably a dream shared by a lot of people in this town.

But....in this project I thought it could be interesting to look at Middlesbrough and the seaside around this area. This helped me view Middlesbrough from a different perspective. I started to notice how Middlesbrough could look nice in its own way. It was no longer the mess I thought it was. So in my piece I've aimed to show that the Transporter can be beautiful in the mess that is my art!!



Nathan Holmes

Fine Art

Art has always been a little enjoyment in my life. Ever since I was young I have spent personal time drawing and looking at artists' work. The Transporter Bridge was the view from my bedroom window so when I was presented with this exhibition I was quite excited.

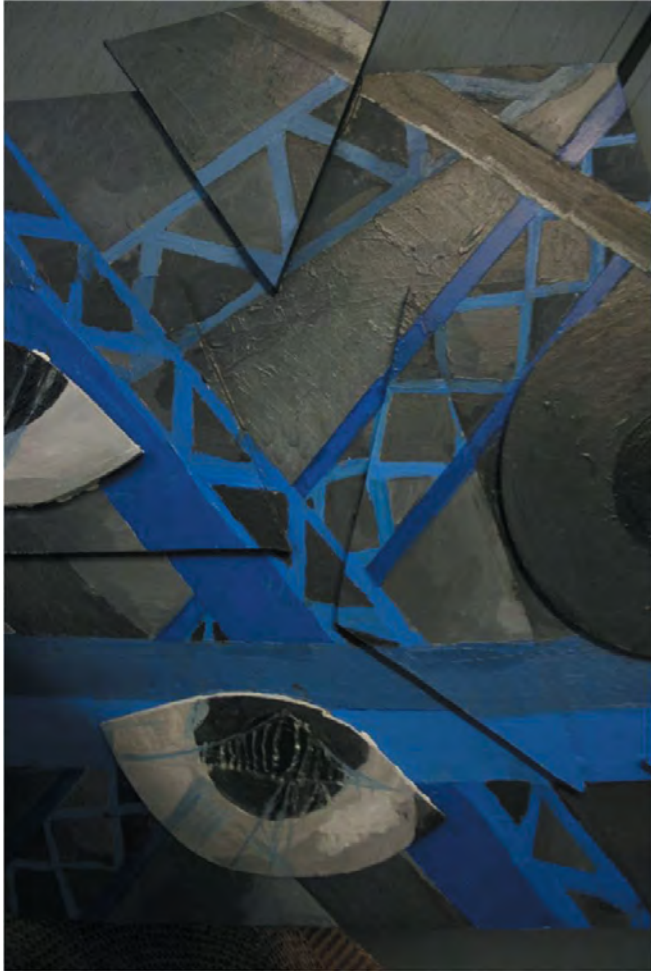
I have worked with clay and plaster as well as drawings during my research into the theme. I hope people connect with my work as this is one of my favourite pieces.



Elizabeth McLaughlin

Fine Art – Relief Painting

Vincent Van Gogh is my inspiration because I love his expressive brushstrokes that show movement and texture to bring his works to life. My finished painting shows the beauty and structure of the Transporter Bridge which is complimented by a Van Gogh setting of the night sky which captures the heart of the area.



Iain Guy

Fine Art - 3D Abstract Painting

Eyes are considered to be windows to the soul. I find them interesting to look at but also in their reflection you can see what the person sees. Inspired by Escher, I wanted to create a piece of art that shows what different people see when they look at the Transporter Bridge.

Andrew Milner

Photography

I have lived in Middlesbrough all my life. I have been over the Transporter Bridge many of times and cycle over to the area on my days out just to see the Transporter.

It was really good to explore the Bridge site. There is not much going on today but the Transporter is the main attraction over there and the area holds a lot of history from over the years. For example, the Transporter Bridge has been standing for over 100 years.

The large bright blue bridge is in a great condition considering how long it has stood. There are a lot of texture and layers to the Bridge. It is a great structure.





Andy Hannah

Photography

"In photography there is a reality so subtle that it becomes more real than reality." – Alfred Stieglitz



Daniel O'Brien

Photography

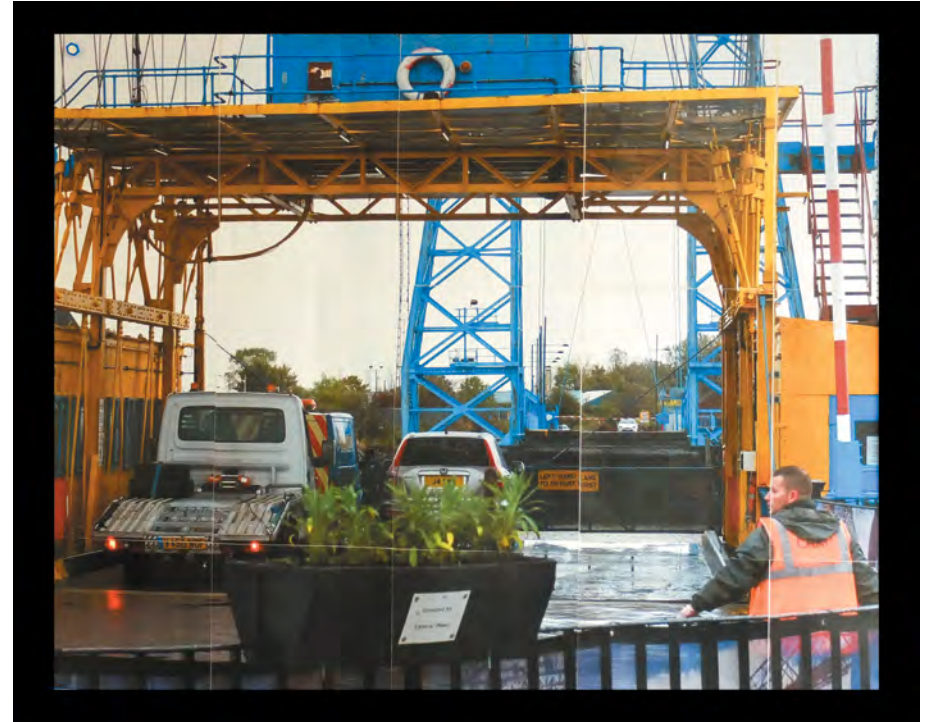
When we went to the Transporter Bridge on a photo shoot with college, I found it a very interesting subject. I see the Transporter Bridge from a distance nearly every day and have been up close several times as I have lived in Middlesbrough nearly my entire life; I found it interesting to work on something so familiar yet unfamiliar as I had up to that point never been on the Transporter. I found working on the Transporter Bridge to be a strange challenge as it involved a lot of moving around and there was a lot to take in.



Jack Gaskarth

Photography

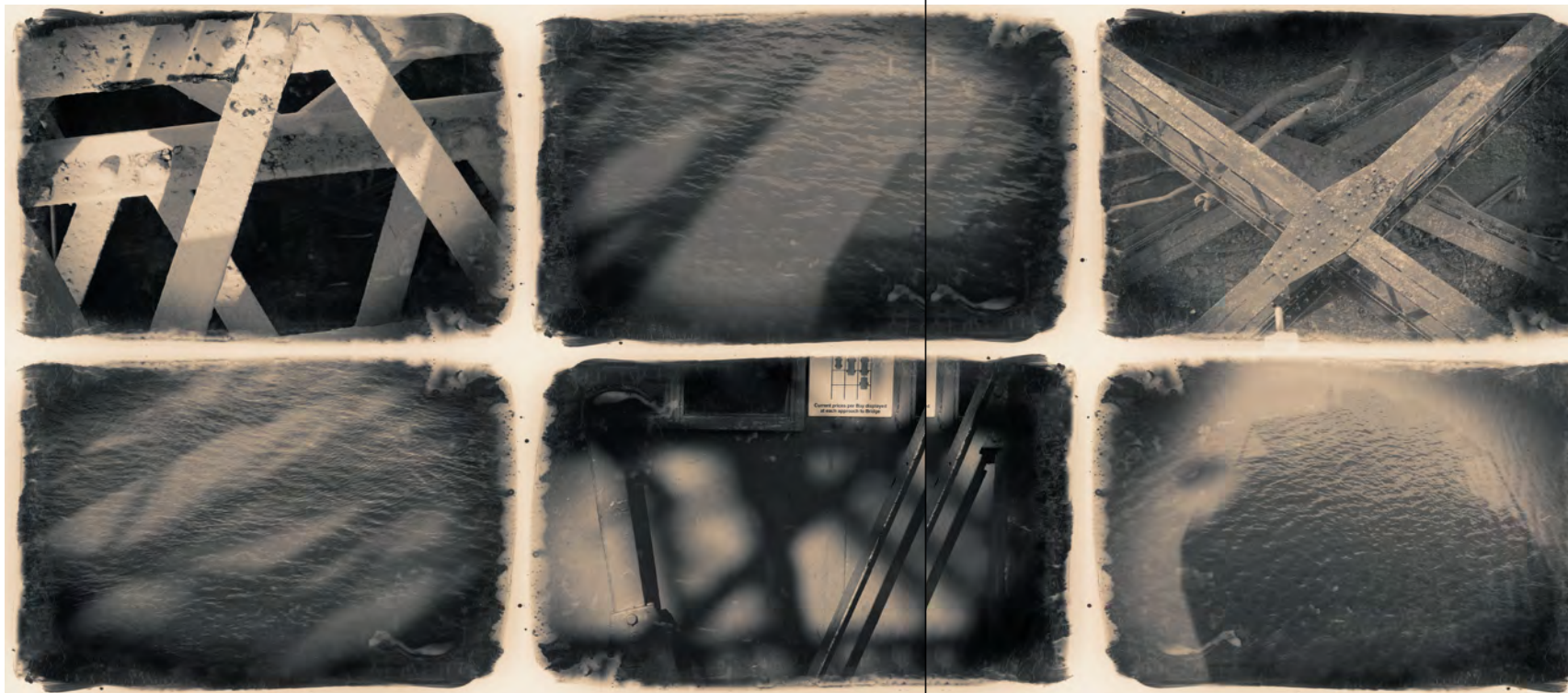
As a child I grew up in Middlesbrough and I would use the Transporter Bridge a lot travelling to see my family on the other side of the River Tees. I enjoyed studying and photographing the Transporter Bridge as it gave me a close-up view of how it works and a sense of the history behind it. I have used photography to capture the greatness of the Bridge but also the simplicity behind its design. To me the Transporter Bridge gives me a sense of nostalgia and I hope to connect with visitors who have their own memories of the Transporter Bridge.



Karl Crockett

Photography

Living in Middlesbrough for most of my life has given me an insight into how we have to work together to create something great. Just like the Transporter Bridge, I think that my photo captures this as it shows a variety of people from different social classes going about their daily lives or working. I have used various media on the Transporter Bridge and its surrounding environments to help me include those elements within my photo. I hope to share that sense of teamwork with my viewers through my work.



Shauna Hindmarsh

Photography

I grew up in Middlesbrough, I have lived here all my life and the Transporter Bridge always astonished me. During the night when it glows it looks magnificent and is a great piece of art. I enjoyed taking photographs of the Transporter Bridge because it is such a large structure and gives people great potential to create amazing photos. My work is everything to me; it builds confidence in me knowing I can also take some great photographs. I share my artwork to show how brilliant the structure of the Transporter Bridge is as an intriguing landmark for Middlesbrough.



Left: Olivia Kiss

Textiles – 3D Fashion

Woodlands and forests interest me so I wanted to explore the local area particularly the avenue of trees in Acklam. I liked the changing autumnal colours of the leaves and the sense of movement created as they float to the ground. I am trying to make a statement in my work about how nature should be protected. I used a variety of textiles techniques and materials to make and embellish my bodice.

Above: Shabnam Faizal

Photography

I am from Sri Lanka and I have lived in Middlesbrough for over three years. I like to visit the Transporter Bridge often because it makes me feel relaxed and it gives me lots of happiness. I enjoyed studying about the Transporter and the surrounding environment. I like to share my work with others because it encourages me to create more photography.

An abstract painting featuring bold, expressive brushstrokes. The composition is dominated by vibrant blue and white, with dark, charcoal-like tones providing a strong contrast. The brushwork is thick and textured, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and emotional intensity.

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