

ARTSDROP #3

GUEST ARTIST: **Cherelle Sappleton and Barbara Clarke**

TITLE: **Home Is Where The Art Is**



Cherelle is a mixed-media visual artist. Her art practice is as much about processing her experiences as it is about creating something beautiful to look at.

She believes being creative is not about being a 'good artist', it's about taking the time to be in your body. Spending so much time inside can make things feel stale. But with a little rejigging, and some music, we can carve a creative oasis, if we try.



Barbara was born in Grenada. Her head teacher taught her a lesson that stuck with her: 'Do not bring me a problem. There is a solution for everything'. With this mindset, Barbara felt unstoppable. She is dedicated to helping people and serving her local community.

## Learning links

National Curriculum themes explored in these activities:



Producing creative work, exploring and recording experiences.



Learning about changes and events in living memory (e.g. Windrush Generation migration)

This material was originally created for Art by Post, adapted by Sarah Lewis



**Everyone has creativity within them. And any space can become a creative space. It just takes some time and a little effort to draw out sometimes. In African-Caribbean culture, the frontroom is often used as a sacred, creative, active, multidimensional space.**

The West Indian Front Room installation, Michael McMillan, Museum of the Home. Photo courtesy of John Nelligan 2005

“The front room was such a cherished space for me and many other Caribbean people who were part of the Windrush generation. It's where we came together to eat, dance, entertain and celebrate. We used to change the structure all the time, depending on what we were using it for. Setting out our records would make it a dance hall, or we'd move the table to the centre for a dinner party.”

**Barbara**

## 1 Creating your studio

A studio is a place where you can be relaxed and creative surrounded by things that inspire you. Choose a favourite spot in your home. It might be in a bedroom, or somewhere where you have space to spread out your art materials in peace. You could set up your space alone, or make it a collaborative project with other members of your household! If you don't know the best place, you could ask your family to help you find one.

### You need:

- Scissors
- Glue (see our instructions overleaf)
- Pens and pencils
- Bits of paper or scraps of fabric (ask your family members or an adult if you can use some old newspapers or magazines)

- Large piece of card

### And, if possible:

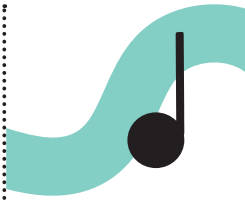
- A favourite photograph
- Some of your favourite music

Gather as much as you can and take it to your home studio spot. Set your materials on a table, tray or even a safe floor space. Now you have your studio set up.



### How to make glue

Mix one part flour with one part water (e.g. half a cup of flour and half a cup of water) until you get a thick glue-like consistency. If it's too thick, add more water. Mix well with a spoon to get rid of all the lumps. Add a few tablespoons of salt to the final mixture to help prevent mould. Voilà!



My invincible song changes every day. But while writing this, it is 'I Dedicate My Life' by Marie Davidson. Here, you can see my collage of my invincible song. When I listen to this track, I feel alert and steely. My body feels light and my skin slightly cool. I feel fast. I smile.

**Cherelle**

**2**

## From my room to yours

Think about how your new home studio makes you feel. Through words or drawing, paint us a picture of your space.

If it helps, fill in the blanks in these prompts:

My home studio is...

It makes me feel...

If I could invite someone in to sit here with me for a chat it would be...

Here's my tip to make the most of your studio when you can't get out of the house...

Why not send your picture to your school, a friend or family member?

### What does 'Windrush Generation' mean?

Between 1948 and 1970, nearly half a million people moved from the Caribbean to Britain. The group was named after the Empire Windrush, the ship that brought one of the first groups of West Indian migrants to the UK in 1948.



**3**

## This is what invincible

What song makes you feel Invincible ?

When you listen to your 'invincible' music, who do you become? How do you feel? Hold on to that feeling. Let's use it as inspiration to create a collage.

Collage is the technique of sticking different materials on a surface. You'll need all your studio materials for this.

Use your scissors to cut clean shapes or strips from your paper. They can be wiggly or jagged, circular, straight or whatever you like. You can even tear the paper into lengths.

Create a wallpaper or tapestry-inspired pattern with the cut-outs on a blank card. Try to create interesting clashes of colours, shapes and patterns. Your collage can be as abstract or orderly as you want it to be. There's no right or wrong. Notice the music, be playful and take your time. Enjoy moving shapes, colours and textures around on the paper. When things look or feel just right, believe that instinct. Once you have a composition you are happy with, stick it down with a bit of glue.



**Thank you for taking part. You might want to share your work with your school, friends and family, or even our team at Southbank Centre on social media: #ArtsDropSC @southbankcentre**