

Ian Murphy workshop



During the Easter holidays, we had artist Ian Murphy in to deliver an exclusive workshop to our A Level and GCSE pupils to learn new techniques and try out his approach to drawing. He is best known for his powerful, tonal drawings and atmospheric, mixed media oil paintings of architectural places.

It was fascinating to see his work in the flesh as the impact of the textural surfaces he creates are so intricate and detailed and add a sense of decay, which isn't as obvious on a screen. Pupils learnt how to use layers of paper, tissue and graphite powder, then sanded the surface down to create a rough, damaged consistency. This was then the base of their drawings where they learnt how to apply cross hatching, mark making, ink drips and painted highlights in a variety of ways to create depth.

It was a real exciting opportunity for pupils, to have an artist in industry visiting them and to learn their techniques first hand. They got the opportunity to flick through his sketchbooks and ask him questions, whilst also creating a selection of work that will count towards their coursework grades.

Mrs Della Harrison

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