

# M&S ARCHIVE

**Home Educators  
Ages 11+**



**JMW Turner**

*The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire*

# M&S and JMW Turner

*The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire* is on loan by Marks and Spencer Group plc to the Stanley and Audrey Burton Gallery for the benefit of the people of Leeds. Learners will explore this artwork, finding out more about Turner and experimenting with some of the techniques he used. We also reveal the fascinating link between Turner's painting and M&S today!

## Learning Objectives

- Gain knowledge about and analyse JMW Turner's work.
- Understand and use painting and drawing techniques used by JMW Turner.
- Use knowledge and understanding of imagery and techniques used by Turner to inform students' own work.

## Links to other subjects

Art and Design

- Use a range of techniques.
- Increase proficiency in handling of materials.
- Analyse and evaluate.
- History of art.

## Resources provided with this pack:

- PowerPoint slides
- *The Pantheon, The Morning after the Fire* film
- M&S image pack

You will also need (not included): paper, pencils, watercolour paints, palettes/mixing trays, cloths, brushes, water pots, scissors and glue.

We've provided a resource overview on the next page, feel free to select content and activities to create your own plan.

# Resource Overview

Activity	Content	Resources
Starter Pages 3-4	Show learners the painting on slide 3. Ask questions to prompt discussion about what they can see (questions provided on pages 3-4).	Slides 3-5
Film Page 5	Watch <i>The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire</i> film.  Ask learners what they noticed, what they were surprised by and what questions they have.	Slide 6, film
En Plein Air Page 7	Take your materials outside and try using some of Turner's techniques.	Slides 7-8, watercolour paints, water pots, cloths, brushes, thick paper or sketchbooks.
Light and Shade Page 7	Practice shading techniques, then draw a still life using this new skill to show light and shade.	Slide 9, paper, pencils
Influencers Page 8	Research artists who have been influenced by Turner's work and create their own artwork inspired by Turner.	Slide 10, art materials
Building a Picture Page 9	Compare Turner's painting and 1930s photos from the M&S Archive, then use your knowledge of Turner's composition to 'improve' the photo.	Slide 11, M&S image pack: image 1, images 7 & 8 printed, paper/card, scissors, glue..
Old and New Pages 10-11	Explore how historic architecture influenced more recent M&S building design, and design a store front for the future.	Slides 12-13, M&S image pack: images 2-5, Paper, pencils, colours.
Plenary Page 12	If you had the chance to talk to Turner what would you ask him and why?	Slide 14
What is the M&S Archive?	Further discussion What is M&S? Mind map everything you know, think and feel about M&S What is an archive, and why would a business like M&S have/value one? Discuss Watch the What is the M&S Archive? Film	Paper for Mind Maps  Film

## Starter – Class discussion

Before giving your learners any information, ask some questions whilst looking at the painting together.

For example (answers provided)

**What can you see?** Buildings, two men, ruins, debris etc

**Why do you think Turner chose to paint this scene?**

Learners might discuss: Turner was well known for painting scenes around him, this was a major event and he was interested in capturing it or was interested in the forms left after the fire, there were no other means of visually capturing events (no cameras or videos).

**Can you think of any other artists that record current events with their art? How do they do this?**

Ai Weiwei, Banksy, Bob and Roberta Smith are some examples but there are lots more.

**What materials do you think Turner used to make this picture?** Turner used watercolour paints built up in layers, light transparent layers first and then the darkest areas last. He may have used pencil to draw some outlines too.

## Starter – Class discussion

**What techniques did Turner use to create the light and dark areas?** The lighter areas were made with thinner layers of paint and were painted first. The darker areas were made later in the painting process and used denser layers of paint (mixed with less water). Turner used different colours to lighten and darken too – not just adding white for lighter areas and black for darker shades.

**There is a lot of depth in this painting, what techniques has Turner used to create such depth?**

There is less detail in the background than the foreground. You can see more of the bricks in the pillars at the front including more variation in colour and tone; in the wall at the back there are fewer bricks painted and they are lacking in detail. This helps create a feeling of depth - less detail for those things further away. He has also used perspective with two vanishing points.

## Film: *The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire*

In 1792 Turner took his art materials to record the damage done by the fire at The Pantheon. He later turned some of those sketches into developed paintings, like *The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire*, working on them at his studio. You can see more of them here:

<https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/turner-the-burning-of-the-pantheon-oxford-street-127050>

**Watch** *The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire* film.

**Discuss** Here are some suggested questions for your learners.

- Which of the techniques that we discussed when we were looking at the painting did you notice?
- How do we capture and record current events now?
- How has seeing the painting close-up made you think differently about it?
- What surprised you?
- Do you have any questions?

# En Plein Air

Slide

Turner often took his materials outside to sketch or draw what he saw in front of him.

## Activity

**You will need:** Watercolour paints, water pots, cloths, brushes, thick/watercolour paper or sketchbooks, access to the outdoors.

- Take your sketchbook outside. Choose a view, building or event to draw. Start with a pencil sketch, just drawing the outline and a little detail, capturing the main shapes you see.
- Turner practiced getting his paint colours right by mixing them on a spare page in his sketchbook. Do the same for your scene, record your colour mixtures in your sketchbook.
- Practice painting a watercolour wash - using a wet brush and small amounts of paint. Then try painting with stronger, darker colours layered over the top.
- Draw your scene again and fill in some colour using light washes, adding layers of stronger colours.
- Can you sketch the same scene from different angles or perspectives?
- Take your sketches and colour mixes back home. Can you make a new painting using your sketches as a starting point? Try using different materials for further works.
- Make notes in your sketchbook reflecting on the techniques you have used.

For a guide to making your own sketchbook, visit:

<https://library.leeds.ac.uk/events/event/1900/galleries/353/key-stage-2-resources>

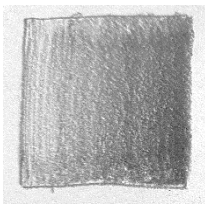
# Light and Shade

Turner was respected for his skills in painting light and shade, which he used to create incredibly atmospheric paintings.

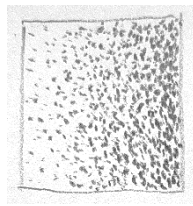
**You will need:** Paper or sketchbooks, pencils, objects to draw, watercolour paper, watercolour paints, water pots, brushes, cloths.

## Activity - Shading

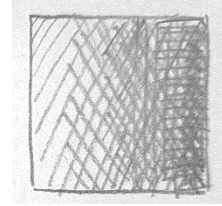
- Choose an object.
- Observe it in different light conditions – high contrast (with strong sunlight or a lamp shining on it), natural and artificial light, at different times of day or in different weathers.
- With a pencil try different techniques for creating tone eg:



shading



stippling



cross hatching

- Choose and use one technique to create the different tones seen in your object with different light conditions.
- Shades of shadow and light are not simply more black or more white. Look at what happens to colours in different light. Look at *The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire* again, particularly at the colours in the lighter and shadier areas in this painting.
- Paint your object, paying close attention to colour changes in lighter and darker areas in different light conditions.

## Extension ideas

Try using different materials like oil pastel, colour pencils or poster paint – how do you have to change your technique to suit the medium? Record this in your sketchbook.



# Influencers

Many artists have been influenced by the work of JMW Turner.

Some of these are Claude Monet, James Abbott McNeill Whistler, Mark Rothko and Olafur Eliasson, who were all inspired by the atmospheric, layered washes used by Turner.

## Research

Choose two of these artists and compare their work to Turner's.

- What similarities and differences can you see?
- How have they used what they have learned from studying Turner in their own work?
- What do you like or find most interesting about Turner's work?

## Create

Use what you have learned about his style of painting to create your own piece of art inspired by Turner.

## Extension ideas

- Who influenced the influencer?
- Can you find out about who or what might have inspired Turner as an artist?

# Building a Picture

**You will need:** M&S image pack: image 1, images 7 & 8 printed onto paper, paper/card, scissors, glue.

## Activity



**1 The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire 1792**



**7 M&S Pantheon construction site 1938**



**8 The Pantheon demolition 1937**

- Can you find parts of the two photographs that look like elements of *The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire*?
- Cut and collage the photographs to make a picture that looks like Turner's painting.

## Extension ideas

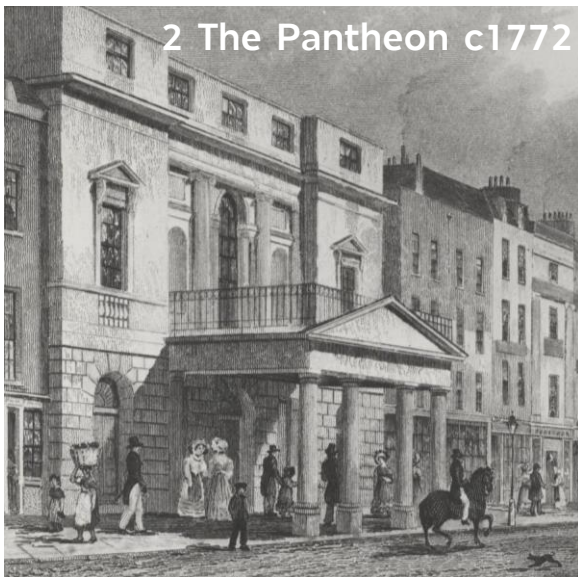
- Look at how Turner has arranged the features in his painting – vertical and horizontal lines, figures, arches, silhouette details etc.
- Cut and collage the 1930s photographs to make a new image that is carefully composed using similar ideas.

# Old and New

**You will need:** M&S image pack: images 2-5, Paper, pencils, felt tips/colouring pencils.

## Discuss

- How are the old and new building designs similar?
- How do you think the M&S architect was inspired by neo-classical architecture?



# Old and New and the Future!

**You will need:** M&S image pack: image 6, Paper/sketchbooks, pencils.

## Activity

Design a shop or high street building for the future, inspired by historic architecture.

Our re-developed and new stores include sustainable features like green walls full of plants that create habitats for insects and birds, bike parking, solar panels and rainwater harvesting on the roof.

You could include:

- Features that mean your building has a positive impact on the environment
- Ways that your building could help people in the community to meet/play/shop/recycle
- Take inspiration from historic buildings nearby or across the globe.



## Extension ideas

Build a maquette of your design.

## Plenary

### Discuss

If you had the chance to talk to Turner what would you ask him and why?

# What is the M&S Archive?

## Activity

Mind map everything you know, think and feel about M&S.

Prompts:

- What can you buy at M&S?
- Is it a large or small company?
- Old or new company?

## Discuss: What is an archive?

An archive is a collection of information, which can come in many different forms such as: letters, reports, photographs, films, digital files, sound recordings and design work.

Our archive contains a lot of merchandise (items sold by M&S), which means we also have large clothing and homeware collections.

**Watch** the What is the M&S Archive? film.

# Background Information

## **JMW Turner and *The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire*, 1792**

British artist Joseph Mallord William Turner, born in 1775, became a student at the Royal Academy Schools in London aged just 14.

Turner is best known for his landscape painting in oil and watercolour and his skills in painting light and shade. He took his materials out in all weathers, or 'en plein air', to sketch the quickly-changing light and shade. He also painted historical scenes and buildings, having originally worked as an architectural draftsman.

The Pantheon Assembly Rooms was an entertainment venue on Oxford Street in London. It was destroyed by a fire on 14<sup>th</sup> January 1792, an event that clearly made an impression on the young artist, as he was quick to get to the scene to paint the ruined building. The fire was reported in newspapers, and was suspected to be arson.

Turner sketched and painted several artworks showing the Pantheon from different angles.

### **Find out more about Turner:**

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-jmw-turner>

<https://www.royalacademy.org.uk/art-artists/name/j-m-w-turner-ra>

# Background Information

## The Pantheon

The Pantheon opened in January 1772 on Oxford Street in London. It was designed by James Wyatt who became a famous architect. His design for the Pantheon was inspired by Roman architecture, including a huge domed room copied from the ancient Pantheon in Rome, it was called the “most elegant structure in Europe, if not on the globe”.

The Pantheon was a venue for concerts and balls. On the opening night 1700 people attended, all paying £50 a ticket. In 1792 it was destroyed by a fire and was rebuilt as a theatre, from 1867 it was the warehouse and offices of a wine merchant.

M&S bought the site in 1937, opening a new store on 19<sup>th</sup> October 1938. All new M&S stores at that time had the same architecture designed by Robert Lutyens. His innovative design of polished black granite was very eye-catching and the store quickly became a landmark on Oxford Street. M&S Pantheon became Grade II listed in 2009 which means that the architecture is protected due to its special historic value.

During the London Blitz, on the night of October 16<sup>th</sup> 1940, a delayed action bomb fell on the building. It fell through the roof and landed in the basement, very close to the Air Raid shelter where 20 members of staff and their relatives were. When the bomb later exploded, it brought down the floor above; destroying most of the store.

The store was re-built and went on to be extended three times during the 1950s, illustrating the success of M&S and the popularity of our products.



# Resource Evaluation Form

We hope you've enjoyed using this resource. To make sure that we're providing the best resources that we can, we'd be grateful if you could answer the following questions and let us know how we're doing.

## **Date you used the resource:**

How did you find out about the resource?

How does this resource link to your learning activities or planning?

What did you like most about the resource?

What would you change?

Would you recommend the M&S Archive resources to others?

Why?

## **Thank you for your comments**

Please email your answers to [archive@mands.com](mailto:archive@mands.com)

or post to M&S Archive, Michael Marks Building,

University of Leeds, LS2 9JT



# M&S ARCHIVE

## Useful information

*The Pantheon, the Morning after the Fire* is on display at the Stanley and Audrey Burton Gallery at the University of Leeds.

Leeds University Library Galleries

<https://library.leeds.ac.uk/info/1900/galleries>

M&S Archive Home Educators pages

<https://archive.marksandspencer.com/learning/home-educators>

M&S Archive with My Learning

<https://mylearning.org/collections/the-mands-company-archive>

## Contact us

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