

Full of activities
and inspiration for
your summer of
creative play!

SUMMER SKETCHBOOK



This sketchbook belongs to

Decorate this cover
however you like! You
could include ideas from
inside the sketchbook
or show what summer
means to you.



WELCOME to your



With warm wishes from Agora Arts Circle, Battersea Arts Centre, Creative Wandsworth, Nine Elms Arts Ministry, Roehampton R.O.C.K.S, Royal College of Art, Wandsworth Council, 575 Wandsworth Road (National Trust).

Hello!

Maybe you had one of our Create & Learn PlayKits in 2020 – or maybe this is your first? Whichever it is we are thrilled to share our brand-new Summer Sketchbook with you. We hope that it will help you get creative this summer at home and outside in your local area.

These PlayKits have been put together by a group of organisations from Wandsworth. Over the past year, we have worked together to create and distribute over 10,000 kits like these to try and make sure that children aged 6-10 years old have got something fun to do, are able to get creative and have got the materials to do that with!

The Summer Sketchbook has been created by the artist and RCA graduate Hannah Coulson and is inspired by a very special house: 575 Wandsworth Road. Inside the sketchbook are a host of activities and ideas to inspire you to see your home and local area in a new way, experiment with new materials and encourage you to draw, paint, write, play and create. And remember: there are no mistakes when you're being creative!

We would love to see your Summer Sketchbooks as they grow. Why not ask a family member to take a picture of your favourite page and help you upload the image to Twitter, Instagram or Facebook, using the hashtag **#createandlearnplaykits**.

Project partners and supporters



Royal College of Art
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southside
Shop. Eat. Watch. Enjoy.



South Thames College
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Battersea United Charities



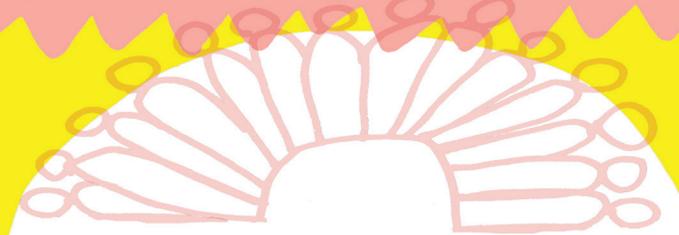
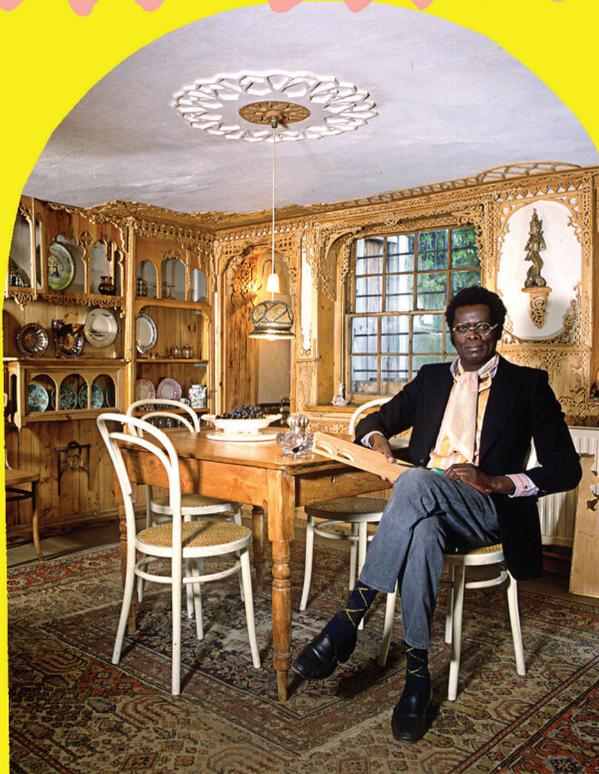


Your summer sketchbook: Inspired by 575 Wandsworth Road

575 Wandsworth Road is an ordinary house with a magical secret.

Inside, nearly every wall, door and floor is decorated in hand-carved wooden designs, paintings and drawings.

This was Khadambi Asalache's home.



Khadambi was born in Kenya and moved to England as a young man. For 20 years he used his home like a sketchbook, filling it with designs inspired by the world around him.

He experimented, played with materials and ideas, made mistakes.

This sketchbook can also become a magical place full of your ideas and experiments.

It is a place to be yourself; you choose how it looks and who gets to see inside.

Some things to think about when you are using your sketchbook:

- Keep scraps and leftover bits of paper – you never know when they will be useful for something.
- You can add more pages by sticking coloured paper into the book with tape.

- Have fun and play with your ideas and materials.
- Everything is an experiment – if something turns out differently than you expected that is ok! There is no such thing as a mistake in a sketchbook.

You don't need to start at the beginning or finish at the end. Start wherever you like!

When Khadambi spoke about his house he said: 'It was magical when I saw it, I thought – I can do something with this.'

You'll find more information and photos of 575 Wandsworth Road at the back of this sketchbook.



Who can you see?

Khadambi included all sorts of faces in his designs.

You could fill this page with drawings of people you know, people you see when you are out or characters you've invented. How can you show all their different hairstyles, expressions or features?



As your collection grows you might need to fit new faces in the spaces between your other drawings.

You can draw faces, colour them in with paints, or try collecting stones, twigs and leaves to make faces too...



Can you collect more faces on this page?



Try making a puppet by drawing a face onto coloured paper and sticking it to a lolly stick.

Centre of attention

This dot is you!

Sit quietly by a window, in the park or even on the bus.
What sounds can you hear? What can you smell or feel?
Can you turn your experience into marks, shapes and colours?
Are the sounds like zig-zags, dots, wavy lines or something else?

Try drawing sounds
that are close to you
near the dot...

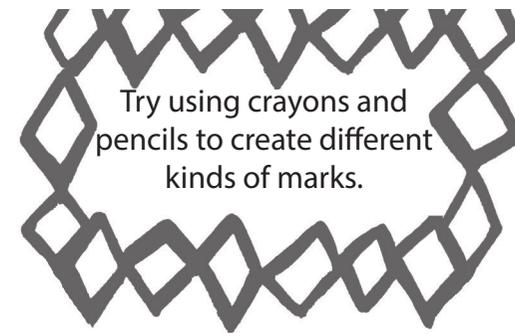


...and sounds that are
far away right at the
edge of the page.



Would you like to have another go?

Choose a different place to sit...what can you hear, smell or feel from here?
How could you turn your experience into shapes, marks or colours on the page?



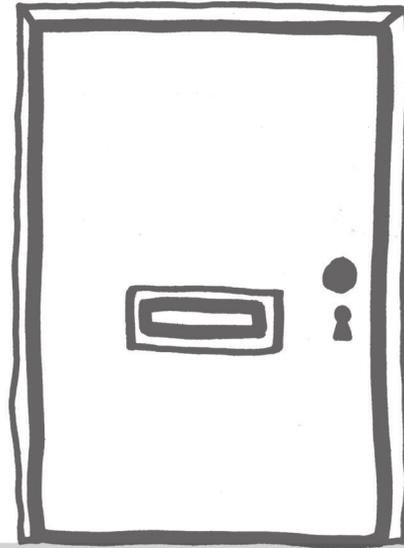
Invent a story

Think of a character.

Imagine they have discovered a door to a magical place. Can you tell the story in this blank comic strip?

What would they see as they open the door? Could something surprising happen later on in the story?

It might take a little while for you to work out your story - you could add a new scene each day.



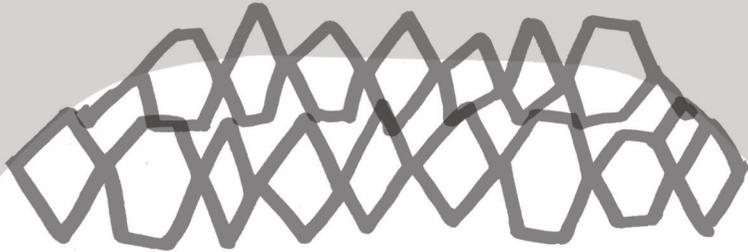
How does your story continue?

Can you fix it?

Khadambi's amazing creation began when he needed to fix a damp patch in his basement!

Look around your local area. Can you spot something that needs to be fixed or could do with a bit of attention? Can you imagine a creative way to transform it into something fun or beautiful?

Draw or write your ideas here.



Memory drawing

Summer is an especially good time for making memories.

Use this space to draw or write your memories of summer time. Or make a record of what it is like to be you right now...what are some things about this summer that you don't want to forget?





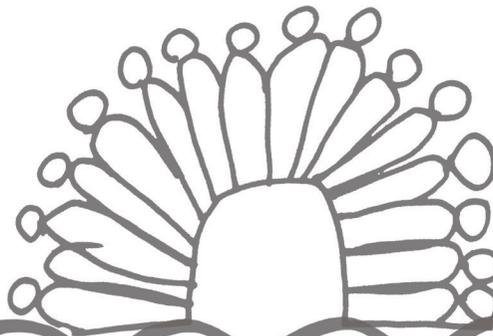
Creating patterns

Khadambi created patterns all around his home...there were patterns on the ceiling to look at in bed and patterns all the way upstairs.

Can you fill this page with patterns? You could try using a black pen or cutting out shapes from coloured paper.

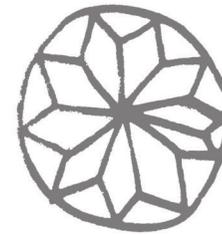


Khadambi said:
'I look for inspiration and then change what I see to suit the space I have and the effect I want.'

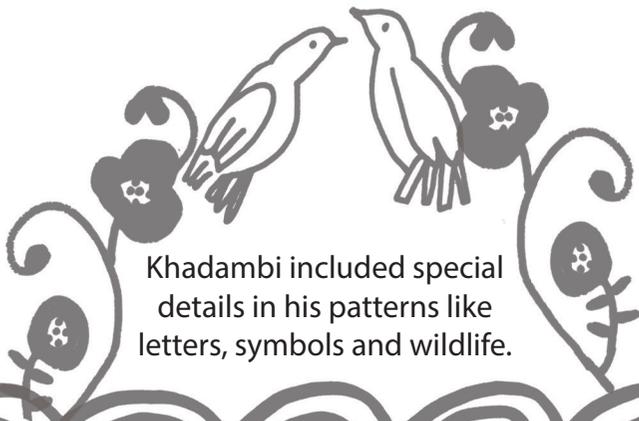


Can you create more patterns on this page?

Here is the start of a pattern.
Can you grow the pattern with
letters, numbers and symbols
that mean something to you?



Khadambi included special
details in his patterns like
letters, symbols and wildlife.

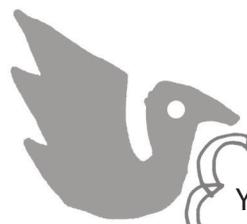


Your nature collection

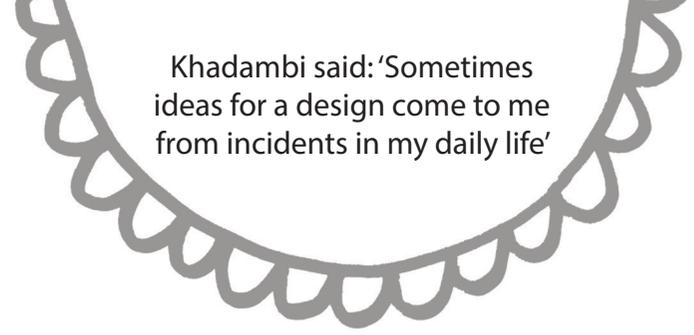
What kinds of nature can you see from your window or in a park?
It might be leaves, trees, stones, birds, insects, clouds or animals.
Recreate what you see here.



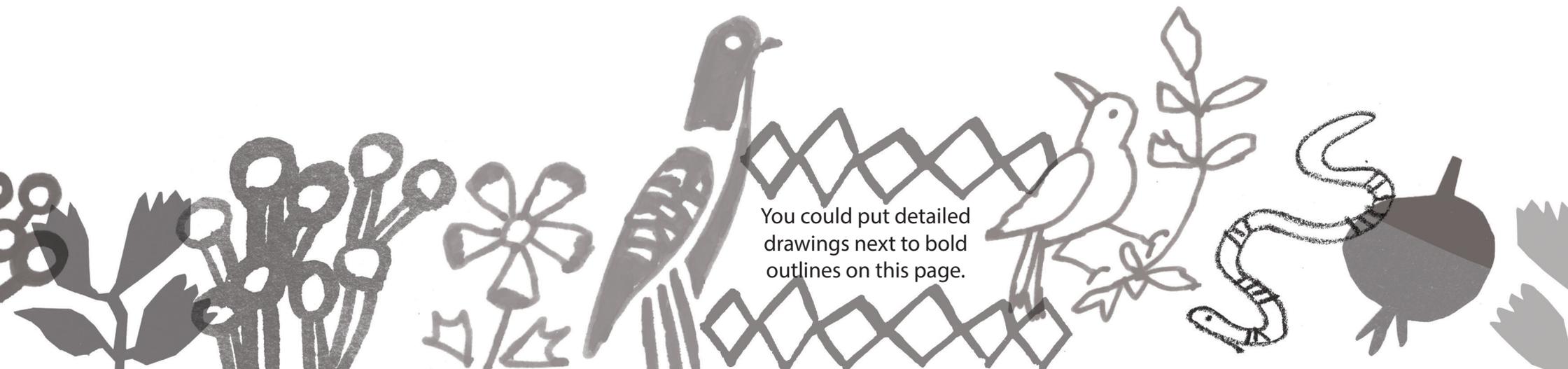
Try using a range of materials and techniques like drawing, painting, cutting out shapes or sticking things in.



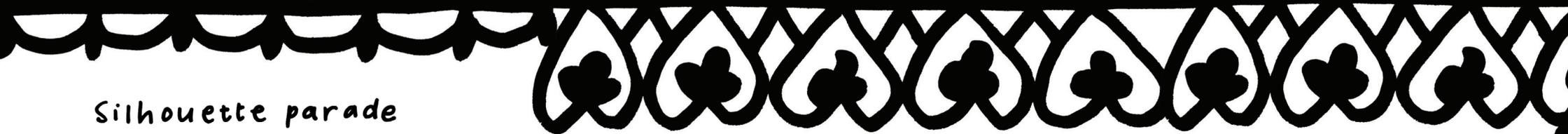
You can keep adding to your nature collection on different days.



Khadambi said: 'Sometimes ideas for a design come to me from incidents in my daily life'

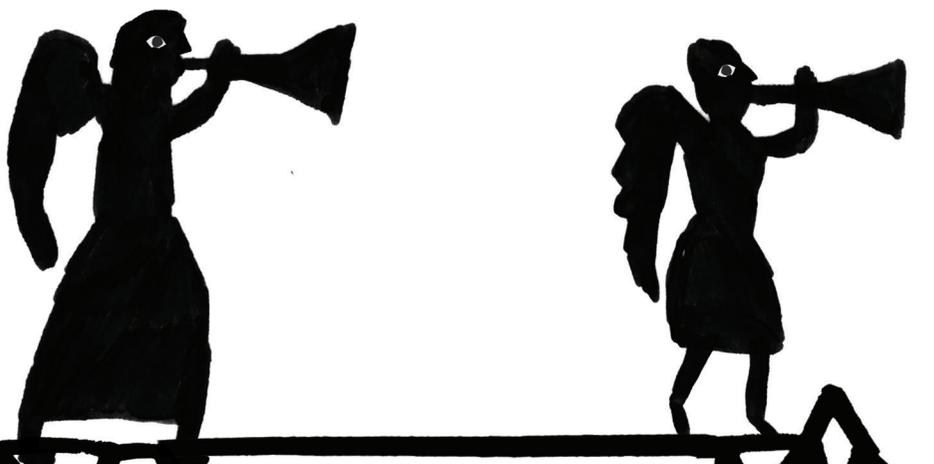


You could put detailed drawings next to bold outlines on this page.



Silhouette parade

Using scissors and black paper, or a black pen, can you create a parade of silhouettes that move across these pages? You could show people you admire, or pass in the street or from your imagination.



A silhouette is a bit like a shadow – it is a bold dark shape with little details along the edge or holes in the middle to create eyes and other features.



Try asking a friend
or someone in your family
to do some bold poses so
you can draw or cut out
their silhouette.



You can also tape
silhouettes to sticks
to make shadow puppets.



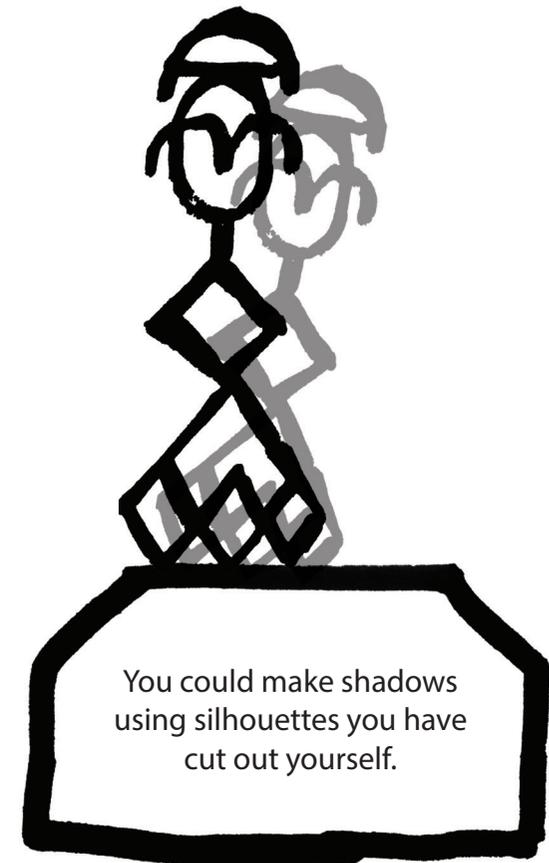
Drawing with light

Khadambi designed lampshades to cast beautiful shadows on his walls.

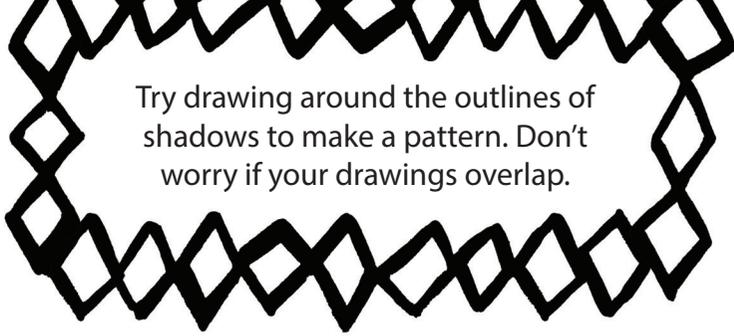
Using a lamp, or the sun on a sunny day, try making shadows on this page with your hands, objects from your house or things you have found outdoors like a twig or leaf.



Try using crayons or pens for your shadow drawings



You could make shadows using silhouettes you have cut out yourself.



Time to daydream

Think about a person, an animal or even a building that you have seen recently. Then think about the things you *can't* see.

- How might that animal be feeling inside?
- What is that person thinking about?
- If that building could talk, what story would it tell?

Here's some space to create a story or two.

You could paint, draw
or write your ideas





Can you create a funny,
mysterious or spooky
story on this page?

What can you re-use?

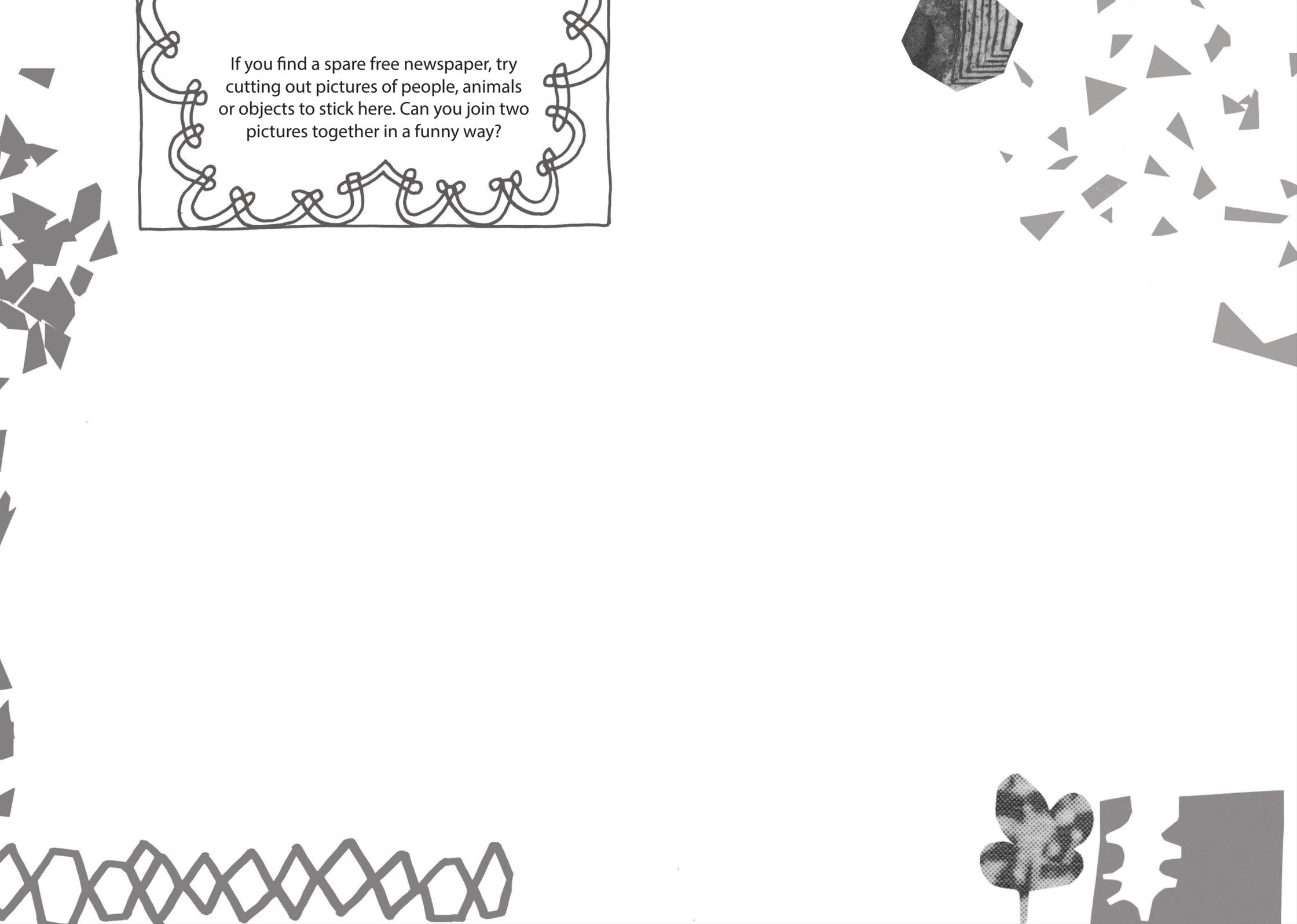
Can you turn scraps of paper left over from other activities into something special?

Try sticking them here. What could you draw onto or around these unusual shapes to transform them into something amazing, silly or strange?

Using cut-out shapes to make an image is a creative technique known as 'collage'.



If you find a spare free newspaper, try cutting out pictures of people, animals or objects to stick here. Can you join two pictures together in a funny way?



Spotlight on a local artist

Hi, I'm Raksha Patel and I live in Battersea.
I am a painter and I also like to draw and make films.

In my work, I am inspired by the human body and the natural landscape.
I like to combine these images and forms to create something new.
The painting here is called 'Ya-Te-Veo'. What images do you think I have combined to make it?



Ya-Te-Veo
30 x 40cm
Acrylic on canvas
2015
Image courtesy of Raksha Patel

Use your watercolours to make...

runny paint with lots of water makes a good sunset!



Here's a photo of me drawing Henry Moore's sculpture 'Three Standing Figures' in Battersea Park.





many lines with not too much water

look for things



inside and outside



make a picture

of you, an animal, your favourite thing



watery runny paint also makes good drips like rain

575 Wandsworth Road: A living sketchbook

You may have walked past 575 Wandsworth Road without even knowing it. Outside, it is like many houses but inside it is a work of art – full of colour, texture and pattern making.

Khadambi took inspiration from all over the world as well as right on his doorstep. He kept memories of the colours, smells and scenes he experienced in his head. He would hand paint and carve scenes of nature and figures onto wooden floorboards which he recycled from skips.

Khadambi was not worried about showing his working methods, and left pencil marks of his sketches and blobs of glue where he stuck the carvings to the walls.

You may have spotted some of his designs and ideas within these pages. They are even more beautiful in real life.

The house is now cared for by the National Trust, which is a conservation charity that looks after places of beauty and nature and history “for everyone, for ever”.

If you have been inspired by Khadambi’s work, you can arrange a visit to this very special house by emailing the team who care for the house and open it for tours at:

575Wandsworthroad@nationaltrust.org.uk

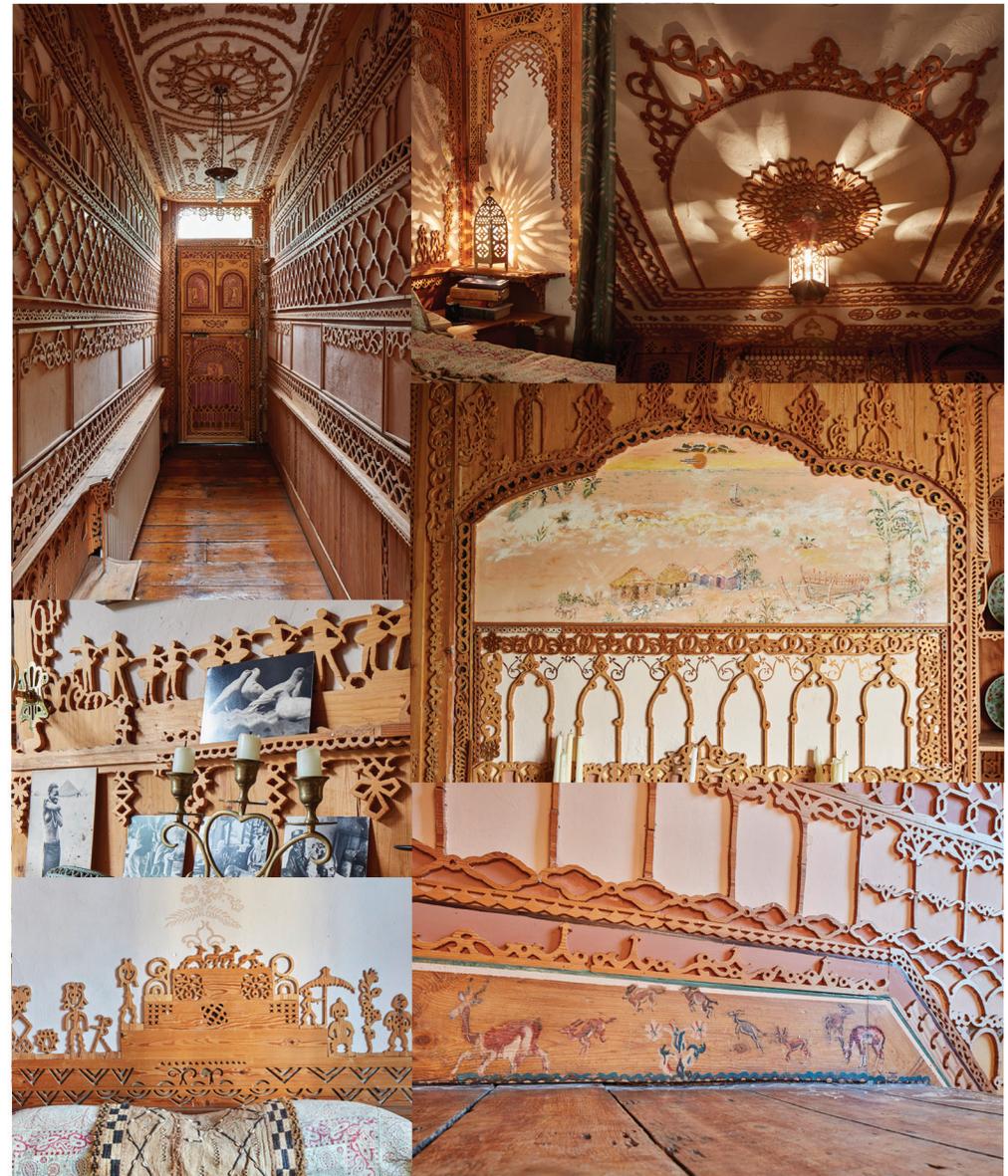


Image of Khadambi Asalache on p3:
PHOTOGRAPH BY GERED MANKOWITZ ©BOWSTIR Ltd/mankowitz.com

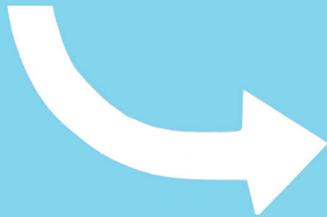
All other photographs: ©National Trust Images/Robin Forster

Khadambi was creative in all sorts of ways. He wrote poems, he liked maths, he loved cooking for his friends, he made his home into a magical world.

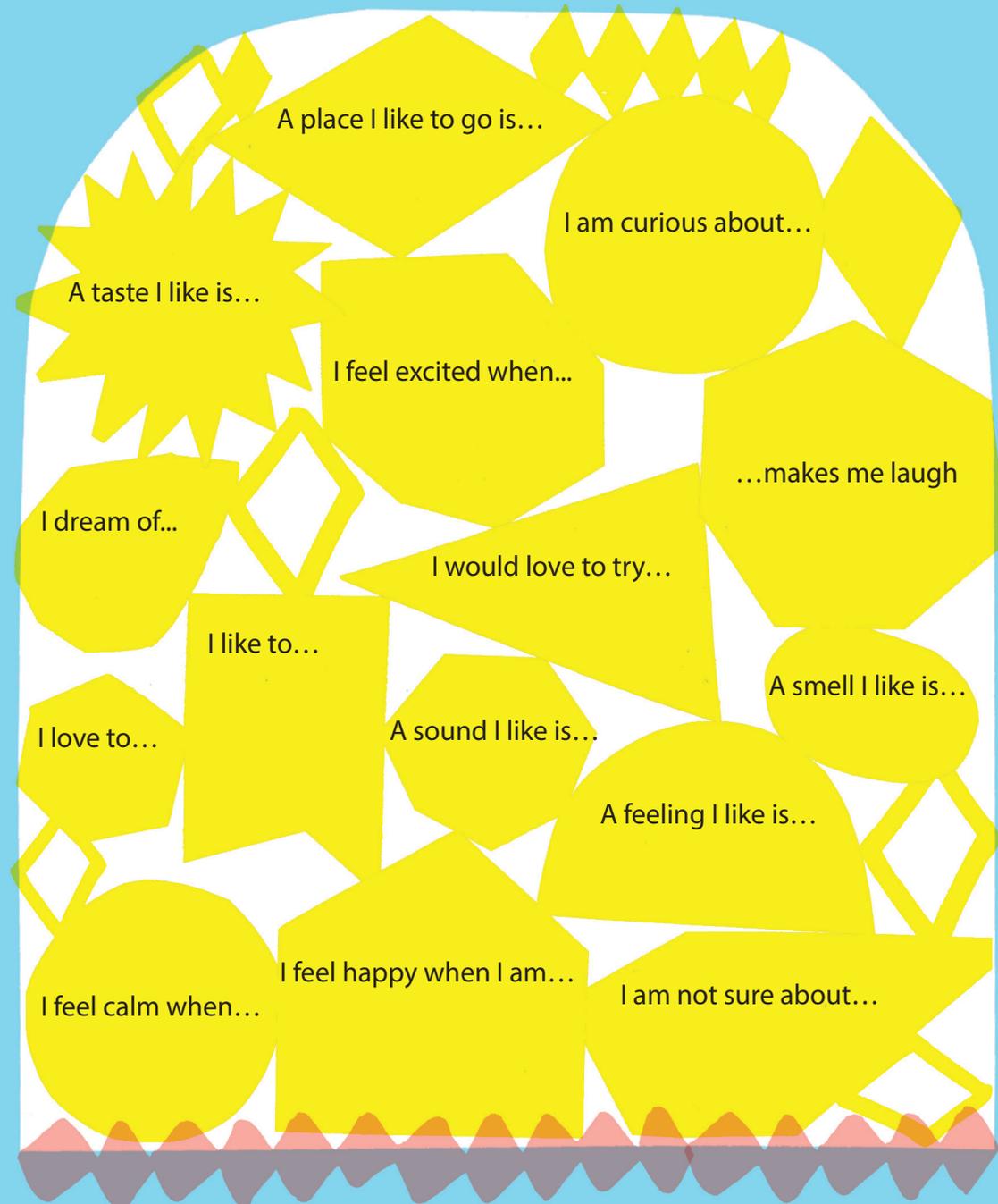
Khadambi grew up in Kenya, studied art in Italy and made his home in London. All those different experiences fuelled his creativity; nobody else could have made a house the way he did.

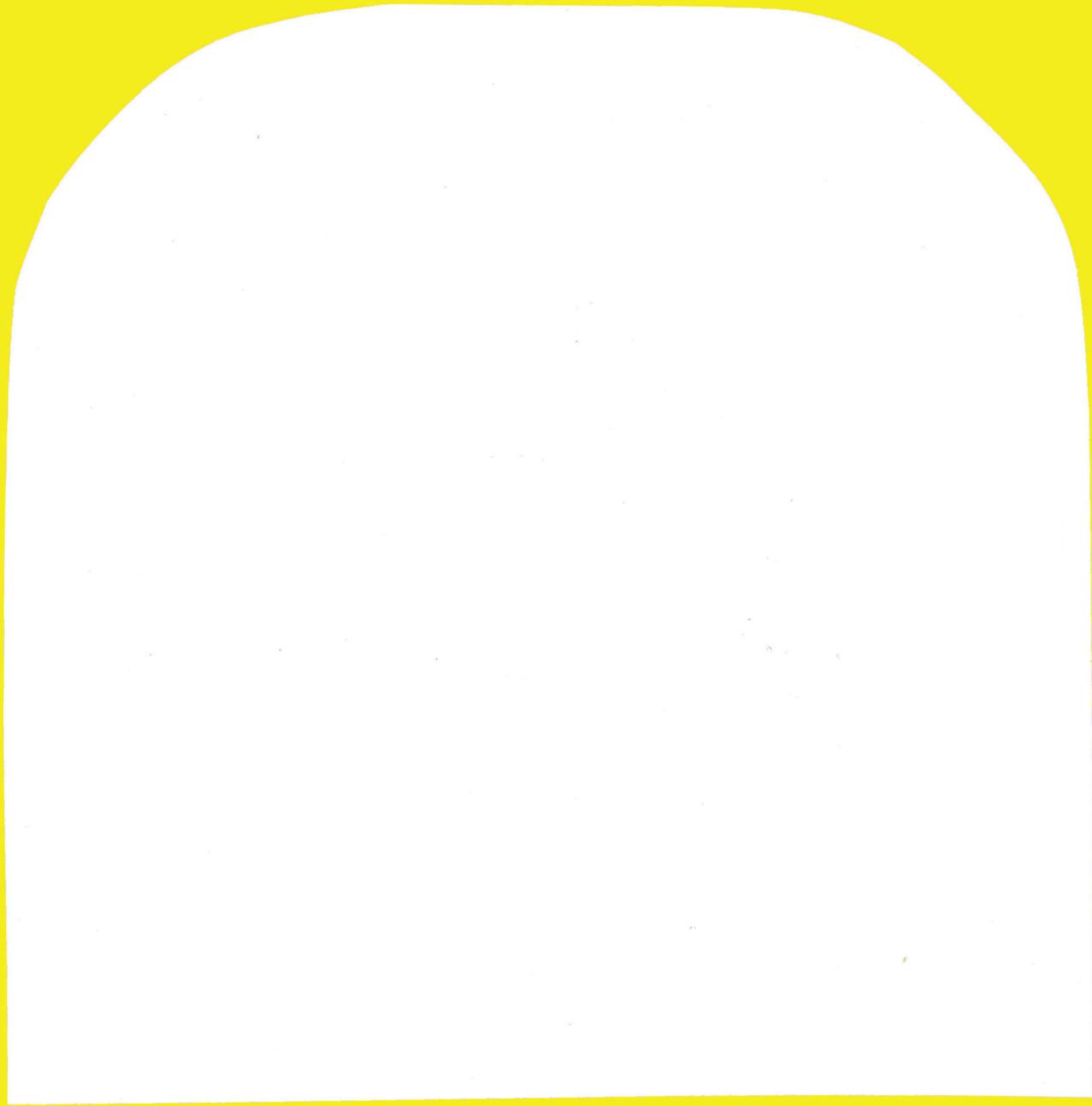
And nobody else could make this sketchbook the way you have!

So let's think about what makes you unique - the things people can't find out just by looking at you.



And finally.... a big thank you to our project partners, funders, the artists, schools, teachers, community groups, volunteers and all who came together over the last year to make this project happen.





Here's some
space to make a
brilliant portrait
of yourself.

