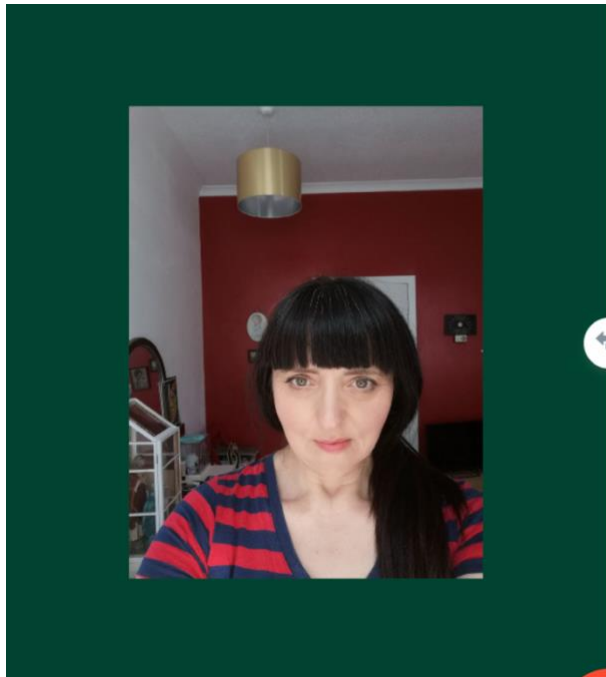


Looking at landscapes...

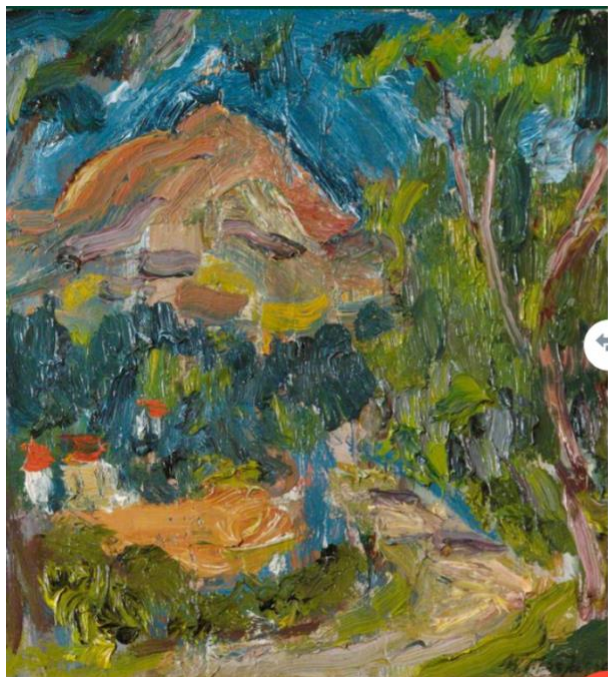


Hello. My name is Margarita, I am a freelance artist and I also work for the Museums team at the University of Edinburgh, though right now, like so many others I'm mostly working from home.

UMIS

Today we are going to take a look at the art collections of our partner institutions

A landscape can be tackled in many different ways, it does not need to be an exact representation of what the artists sees and often it's as much about 'feeling' as 'seeing'.



In 'Craig Ney (Drumnadrochit)' by William MacTaggart, the artist is expressing the mood and atmosphere of a place. Thick paint and bold strokes mirror the denseness of the trees and undergrowth here.

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Here, Barbara Balmer uses a window as a framing device and translates what she sees into a series of patterns in her work 'Window, Normandy'. Note how the wallpaper merges with the landscape bringing the outdoors inside.

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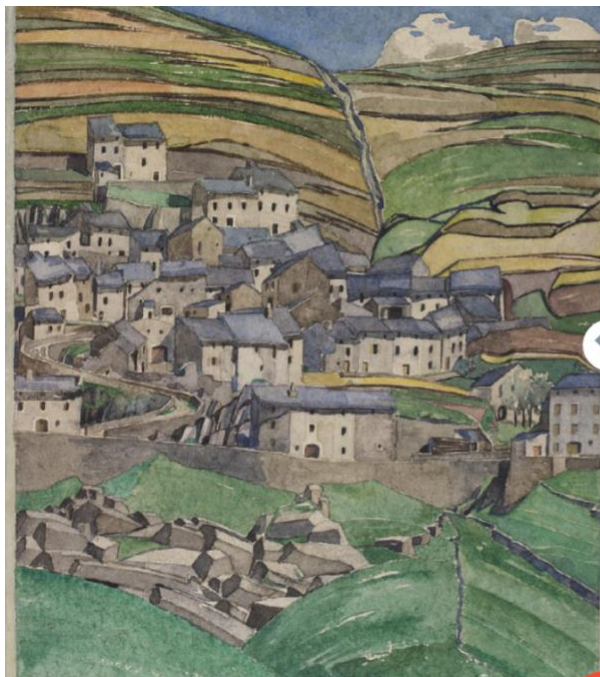
...and this is all about the atmosphere. In 'Untitled', Karen Goode uses colour and texture to pull us into the painting, you can almost feel the spray of the ocean and the mist on your face.

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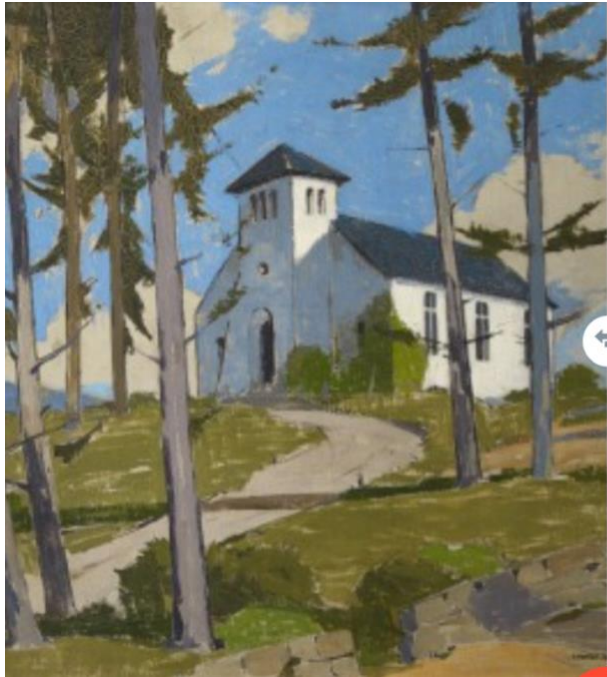
This is a more classical depiction of landscape. Jacob Isaacksz van Ruisdael translates exactly what he sees in 'Banks of a River'. He displays his many technical skills in how well he can paint water, sky, nature, light and reflection... Compositionally, look at how much space he gives just for the sky...

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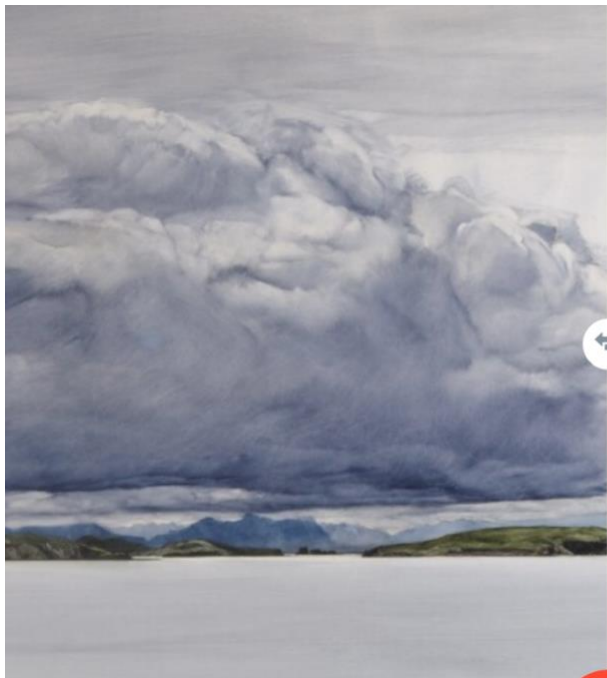
In Charles Rennie Mackintosh's 'Slate Roofs' he sees the landscape as a series of horizontal lines (the fields and mountains) and boxes (the rocks and houses), creating a landscape of order and pattern.

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John Guthrie Spence Smith has simplified what he sees; trees, church and sky in 'Taynuilt Church'. The gap in the trees frame the building and because they are near (in the foreground) they give a sense of depth to the building beyond.

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Have you ever watched a storm rolling in? James Morrison's 'Untitled' landscape is dominated by grey sky and clouds so that we really feel that heavy cloud mass pressing down, full of rain about to fall.

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How would you interpret the landscape outside your window, or in your community? What do you see?

- 1/ University of Aberdeen 'Craig Ney (Drumnadrochit)', William MacTaggart
- 2/ University of Aberdeen, 'Window, Normandy' Barbara Balmer
- 3/ University of Dundee, 'Untitled' Karen Goode (2014), DUNUC ARTS
- 4/ University of Edinburgh – 'Banks of a River' Jacob Isaacksz van Ruisdael (1649) EU0734

CREATED WITH WORK BY

- 5/ The Glasgow School of Art - Slate Roofs- Charles Rennie Mackintosh, MC/G/20
- 6/ University of St Andrews, Taynult Church, John Guthrie Spence Smith (HC110)
- 7/ University of Stirling - 'Untitled' James Morrison STIAC_1999_3



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