

ARTIST OF THE MONTH MAY 2025

Artist of the month is a competition that runs in school. Each month we look at a different artist and their work, children can then respond to this artist by either creating a picture, taking a photograph, writing a story, doing some research or a different response that inspires them. Mrs Britten our Art and Design subject lead shares the artist of the month via the school art notice board. The artist of the month winner will be announced at the end of each month.

To enter you need to respond to the artist however you choose. Put your entry into the 'Artist of the Month' basket next to the art gallery display or email it to enquiries@williamgilbertend.derbyshire.sch.uk with the title 'Artist of the Month'. Please enter by Monday 2nd June 2025

This month's artist is: **Etel Adnan**



'Untitled #17' 1980



'Untitled' (2013)



Leporello - Khat wa Rasm (Line and Hand Drawing) 1986

Etel Adnan was a remarkable artist and writer who was born on February 24, 1925, in Beirut, Lebanon. She was known for her beautiful paintings, poetry, and essays. Etel's mother was Greek,

and her father was Turkish, which meant she grew up speaking several languages, including Greek, Turkish, and Arabic. She later learned French and English, which she used in much of her writing.

Etel loved to explore the world around her and express her thoughts and feelings through art. She created many different types of artwork, including paintings, tapestries, and ceramics. One of her special creations was something called a "leporello," which is like a fold-out book. She would fold long strips of paper and cover them with watercolour paints, poetry, and symbols. This unique form of art was inspired by similar folding books she saw in Japan.

- What colours do you see in her paintings? How do they make you feel?
- Can you find any shapes or patterns in her artwork? What do they remind you of?
- Do you notice the sun and mountains in many of her paintings? Why do you think she included these elements so often?
- How do you think Etel felt when she was painting? What emotions do her paintings show?

Inspired by Etel's work, you can create your own art! Try making a "leporello" by folding a long strip of paper into sections. Use watercolours to paint each section with different colours and shapes. You can also add some words or poems that express your feelings. This way, you can create a beautiful piece of art that tells a story, just like Etel Adnan did.

Find out more about Etel Adnan by following the link below to take you to her artist page at the Tate Gallery. Or scan the QR code to take you to the website.

<https://www.tate.org.uk/kids/explore/who-is/who-etel-adnan>



Your turn

How about creating your own leporello, just like Etel Adnan did? Here's a fun way to get started:

1. **Get Your Materials:** You'll need a long strip of paper, watercolours or markers, and something to write with, like a pen or pencil.
2. **Fold the Paper:** Fold your strip of paper into sections, like an accordion. This will create the pages of your leporello.
3. **Paint Your Story:** Use your watercolours or markers to paint each section. Think about using bright colours and including elements like the sun and mountains, just like Etel did. You can also add any shapes or patterns that you like.
4. **Add Words:** Write some words or a short poem on your leporello. It could be about how you feel, a story you want to tell, or even just some words that you think look nice with your paintings.
5. **Share Your Art:** Once you've finished, you can unfold your leporello to see your entire artwork all at once. Show it to your friends and family and tell them about the story you created.

Creating a leporello is a wonderful way to express yourself through both art and words, just like Etel Adnan did!

