

Jamaican Art

1960s & 1970s

CAYMAN
ISLANDS

NATIONAL
GALLERY



The exhibition at the National Gallery of the Cayman Islands shows art from a range of Jamaican artists and includes painting and sculpture. The art is from the National Gallery of Jamaica's collection.

City Life by Osmond Watson could be described using some of the terms below.

Osmond Watson

...was born in Kingston.

He won a scholarship to attend the Jamaica School of Art and Craft and then studied at St Martin School of Art in London.

His work has been exhibited widely, both locally and internationally and he is well represented in major Jamaican collections, including the National Gallery of Jamaica. In 1986, he was awarded the Order of Distinction and in 1992 he was awarded the Gold Musgrave Medal.

Watson said he wanted his art to show the beauty of Jamaican people, to uplift them and provide hope and dignity.



Match each term with its meaning:

Term

Geometric forms

Luminous

Stained glass appearance

Stylised

Influenced by Cubism

Shows Jamaican visual culture

Definition

Glowing, with colour.

The visual features we can observe of a culture – people, things, colours and symbols.

Shapes with lines and angles

Coloured glass put together to make patterns or pictures

An effect created by the artist making the image less like reality.

An art style associated with Picasso. Uses geometric shapes and often shows different views of an object at the same time.

LOOK AT *CITY LIFE* by Osmond Watson

1. Circle some geometric forms.
2. Which 3 items from the list below can you find in this painting that show Jamaican visual culture?

The people

Types of cars

The clothing

The mountains

Flowers

Types of fruit and vegetables

Osmond Watson

also produced
wood carvings
like this one.



Hallelujah is
a wood relief
sculpture,
depicting
worshippers in
joyful singing,
crowned by
the figure of
Christ.



Pick just one detail of this
carving—a face or hands for
example—and try sketching

Influences



Osmond Watson's art is influenced by many different things including African sculpture, Byzantine icon paintings, stained glass and Cubism.

Which is which?



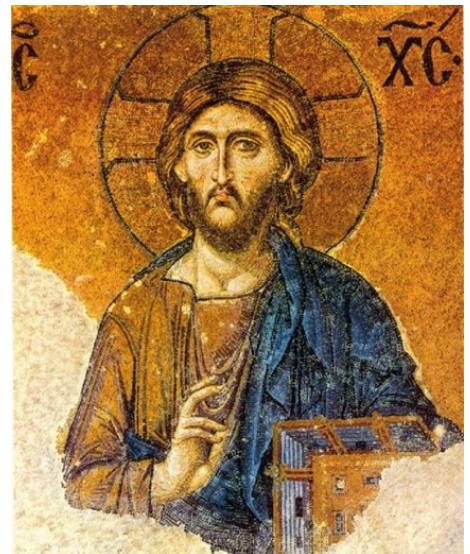
- African sculpture

- Byzantine Icon painting



- Cubism

- Stained glass



Overleaf are some of the figures from the painting *City Life*. The background is made up of geometric forms. Colour these in using a range of colours of your choice. This will make a picture that is more stylised and cubist than Osmond Watson's original.

