

Angela and Ellen's Neighbour

Artist: Amal Ghosh

Born Calcutta, India (1933)





https://sadaa.co.uk/studio/files/Amal-Ghosh_biog.pdf



The painting 'Allegory Series I' by Amal Ghosh depicts an elephant which is encircled by two people. Animals are recurring symbols of purity in his paintings and in this particular work Ghosh comments on the universality of mankind's love of animals. (1980s)



The painting 'Allegory Series III' by Amal Ghosh comments on the relationship between colonialism and the process of resisting forces of oppression. In the painting, the figure wearing a European costume struggles with an elephant, who is a symbol of purity and innocence, and also represents the Indian god Ganesh who is the remover of obstacles. (1987)



In Amal Ghosh's painting 'Allergy Series IV', the figure of Mother Mary appears to be holding the skull of a baby. In this image, Ghosh comments on the relationship between Christianity and Indian religions and how they influenced each other. (1987)



Allegory Series VII' by Amal Ghosh juxtaposes a vitruvian figure and the Indian god Shiva who are surrounded by abstract figures which represent the three wise men and a camel. The figures are enclosed in a circle which symbolises the universe. Underneath the painting is a Hebrew word which means "peace is life". Ghosh's painting reflects the need for a union of world religions



The painting 'Allegory Series X ' by Amal Ghosh is a depiction of the cycle of love. He uses familiar animal symbols from folklore such as the fox and serpent to represent the darker and trickier nature of love. (1987)



The painting 'Allegory Series XII' deals with the idea that human beings possess a tendency to reject certain things in life without questioning their motivations. (1987)

In our session we will explore:

How Amal Ghosh uses 'Allegory' in his Paintings, looking at the artists descriptions of his Paintings and the themes. How are the figures and animals formed in relationship to the whole overall shape and composition?



Firstly Research an Allegory that includes an animal

Create our own compositions (the placement or arrangement of the visual elements)



**You will Need: Paper, Pens/Pencils or Paints
Or
you can just join the art conversation**

What is an Allegory?

A story, poem, or picture that can be interpreted to reveal a hidden meaning, typically a moral or political one.



Greed and Giving



**Using gestures and symbols
Like the apple,
you can create simple compositions
for an allegorical painting**