



Year 9 Natural Forms K.O

Autumn Term

Series of - TASKS

TASK 1: Select artist and produce a copy. AO1 – Artists research

Choose one of the 3 artists in the following Fact Files (O'Keeffe, Blossfeldt & Van Gogh). Look closely at their work, read about them and watch the clips. Google & research for yourself too. Your first task is then to copy a piece of art by your chosen artist.

- You can use any materials – choose materials appropriate to the artwork.
- You can zoom in to part of an image if you want to.
- You could find a different image to those on the slides but make sure that the artwork links to natural forms.
- If you have a sketchbook, you could present this in your book alongside the image (or leave a gap for it if you need to print in school).

TASK 2: Create your own research pages / presentation. AO1 – Artist research

Either in your sketchbook or as a separate presentation, produce research pages about your chosen artist. Present at least 3 examples of their work along with key information about them. Most important of all you need to write in detail about *at least* one piece of their work.

You must include your own descriptions and personal thoughts and opinions about the work. Use the prompts on the 'writing about artwork' sheet to help (content, form, process, mood), making sure that you include sentences about each of these areas.

TASK 3: Series of drawings and photographs AO3 – Record

A) Inspired by your chosen artist, take your own photos or find relevant images of natural forms. eg. Close up flowers/skulls for O'Keeffe, simple, dramatically lit seed pods/ plants for Blossfeldt or perhaps sunflower heads for Van Gogh.

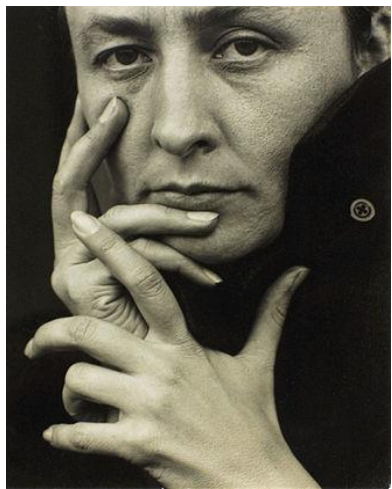
B) Produce at least 3 drawings of natural forms, working from real life, own photos or collected photos. Use relevant techniques to your artist – eg. you could do continuous line or cross-hatched line drawings for Van Gogh or detailed tonal pencil drawings for Blossfeldt.

Task 4: Own response to artists' work AO2 - Explore

Create your own artwork inspired by your artist, using any materials of your choice. Try to work in the same style as your artist. Consider composition, materials / techniques

Work from direct observation or from one of the drawings photographs from task 3.

If you are working inspired by Karl Blossfeldt, your work can be a photography outcome- (advice to follow).



Georgia O'Keeffe

American artist, best known for her close-up, large-scale flower paintings, painted from the mid-1920s-1950s. She made about 200 paintings of flowers of the more than 2,000 paintings that she made over her career.

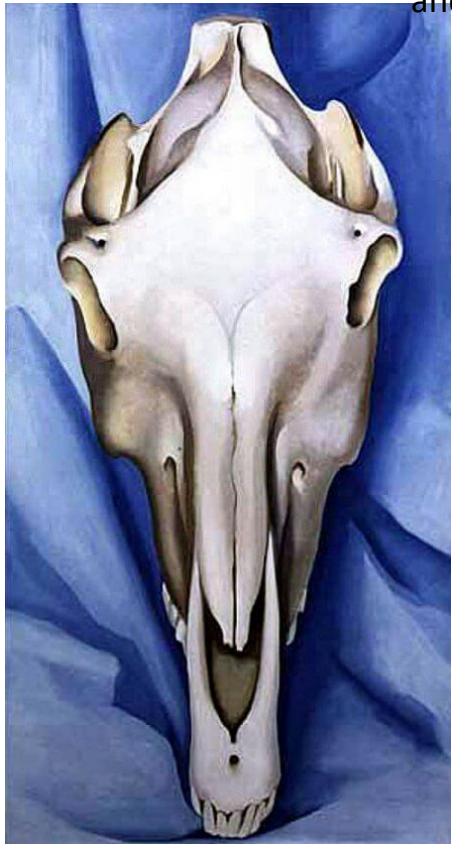
-She painted nature in a way that showed how it made her feel. Her close-up flowers are so magnified that the petals and blooms become abstracted into sweeping shapes and swaths of colour.

She also produced many paintings of desert landscapes and skulls.



She decided to be an artist when she was 10

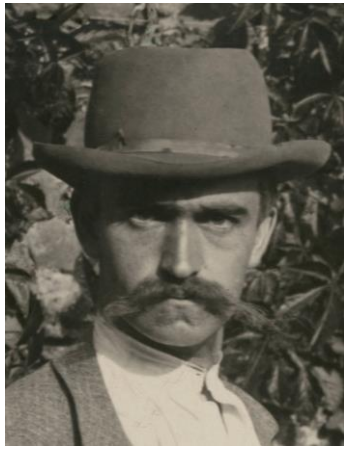
This sold for \$44 million!



"If I could say it in words, there would be no reason to paint."
- Georgia O'Keeffe

Watch this TATE MODERN clip about her work:
<https://youtu.be/h14j6GKff60>

"I found I could say things with colour and shapes that I couldn't say any other way - things I had no words for." Georgia O'Keeffe

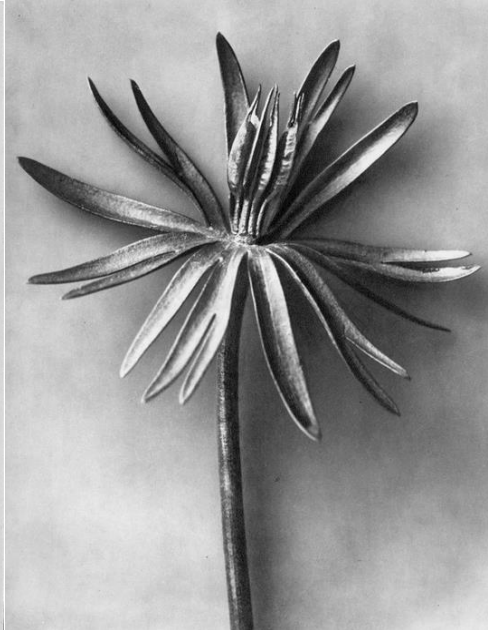


Karl Blossfeldt



German photographer (1865-1932) known for his magnified black-and-white botanical images of plants and flowers. His photos reveal the sculptural qualities and textural details of each specimen.

He originally trained as a sculptor and then became a teacher. His photos were not intended to be works of art – he considered them research material for his sculptures and a teaching aid for his students to draw from. His book of photos *Urformen der Kunst* (Art Forms in Nature) (1928) quickly became an important work of art.



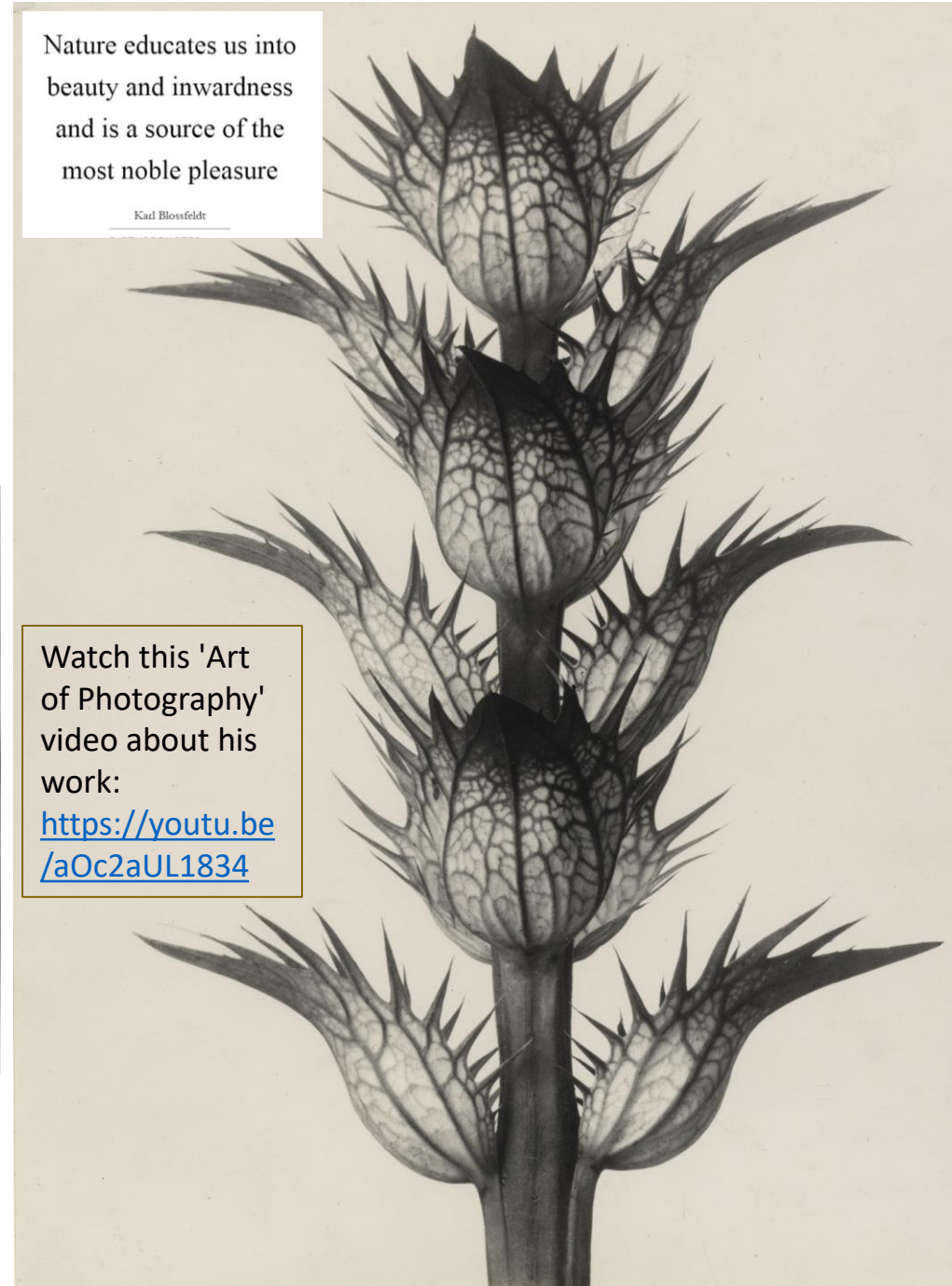
Nature educates us into
beauty and inwardness
and is a source of the
most noble pleasure

Karl Blossfeldt

Watch this 'Art
of Photography'
video about his
work:

<https://youtu.be/aOc2aUL1834>

- Scientific way of exploring shapes in nature – often macro photography (zoomed in).
- The composition focuses on the shape of the plant, usually centrally framed.
- Always plain background - ambient light – no harsh background shadows.
- Black and white photographs – focus on intense detail, textures and tones.
- Usually common plants he found around his mother's garden.



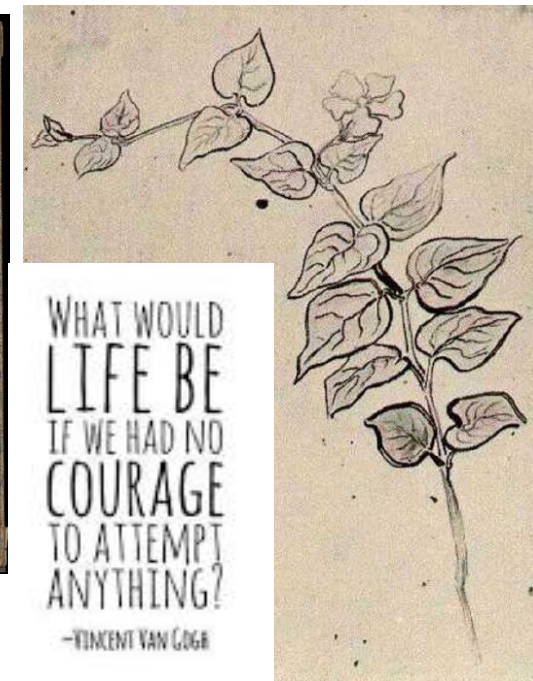
Vincent Van Gogh



Dutch Post-Impressionist painter 1853-1890. Since his death, he became one of the most successful painters in history. He produced around 2,100 artworks, including still lifes (most famously his sunflower series), landscapes and portraits. He became an artist at 27 but was not commercially successful, and his suicide at 37 came after years of mental illness, depression and poverty.

Watch this clip about his sunflower paintings:

<https://youtu.be/DppVD1i78qU>



Look at its bright yellows & the way each of the sunflowers are painted differently.



He used bold colours, often pairing complementary colours together to intensify one another. His dramatic, impulsive & expressive brushwork contributed to the foundations of modern art. He was a pioneer in using the impasto technique - the use of thickly textured, undiluted, paint that appears 3D on the canvas & leaves visible brush strokes on the finished painting. He applied undiluted colour, with a palette knife, mixing colours on the canvas. He did this to add dimension to his paintings & emotion & movement.

