

## **The Royal Philharmonic Concert Hall**

The Royal Philharmonic Society was formed in 1840, two years prior to The Vienna Philharmonic. It started modestly in Mr Lassell's Saloon, then to the Collegiate Institute in Shaw Street; in 1844 the architect John Cunningham was instructed to design a hall at the junction of Hope Street and Myrtle Street. His plan for an immense rectangular hall to seat 2,100 plus 250 orchestra and chorus seats was accepted and the foundation stone laid.

Internationally renowned musicians have conducted at the Philharmonic Hall, Max Bruch, Charles Halle, Edward Elgar, Henry Wood, Adrian Boult and John Barborolli. Guest soloists include Clara Schumann, Rachmaninov and Pablo Casals. On the night of July 5<sup>th</sup> 1933 Cunningham's hall was burnt to the ground.

Herbert Rowse, the Liverpool architect of the Mersey Tunnel and Martins Bank Building was commissioned to design a new hall. The art deco hall, with scientifically-designed acoustics and cinema screen rising out of the platform was opened in 1939 with a special programme conducted by Sir Thomas Beecham.

By 1972, Liverpool became the only professional music society in the country to jointly run an orchestra, choir and youth orchestra and in 1990 it remained unique as the only society in the country with its own hall in which its orchestra and choir can record, rehearse and perform. Lenny Henry, Maya Angelou and Capercaillie are amongst a range of artists who have performed at the hall in the past decade.

During 1995 the hall was refurbished. The stage rebuilt with acoustical risers and the Peter Moores Wing housing the Rodewald Suite added to the original building. The artist Marianne Forest designed a Kinetic sculpture for the back wall of the auditorium. The architects were Brock Carmichael.

Education plays a major role in the work of the orchestra with outreach workshops working with a cross section of the community. Annually, the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra plays a series of concerts for Primary School children to prepare staff and pupils for a music scheme written by Wirral's Music Advisory staff. The concerts in 1999 were based on the Mad Hatters Tea Party, with a cross curricular theme.

Art and Music may form the basis of a variety of Art and Design projects relating to the work for example, of George Braque, Picasso and Kandinsky. Kandinsky played the cello and was deeply interested in music of all kinds. A commission in 1928 to choreograph and design a form of ballet based on Mussorsky's *'Pictures at an Exhibition'* was, he said, one of the most stimulating of his life.

Gustav Klimt's *'Beethoven Frieze'*, decorating the Secession building in Vienna, displays Klimt's style based on a strong emphasis on contours and the placing of the figures full face, in profile or parallel to each other. The figures decorating the Philharmonic Hall recall Klimt's symbolic frieze.

## Starting Points

- Gauguin referred to the 'colour orchestration' of his pictures.
- Gustav Klimt's 'Beethoven Frieze'.
- Braques 'Still Life with Musical Instruments'.



**Artists and Designers**

	<b>N W Wirral</b>	<b>N E Wirral</b>	<b>The Birkenhead Dock System</b>	<b>Central Birkenhead</b>	<b>Bidston</b>	<b>Port Sunlight</b>	<b>Contrasts</b>	<b>Liverpool</b>
KS1	John Piper	Alfred Wallis	David Hockney	Marc Chagall	Michael Brennand-Wood	Picasso		
KS2	Elizabeth Frink	Greek theatre	Fernand Leger	Leonardo Da Vinci	Alberto Giacometti	Caribbean Masquerade	Referenced Joan Miró	
KS3	Andy Goldsworthy	Mark Gertler	Ambrogio Lorenzetti	Batik	Christine Kowal Post	Chair Design	Referenced Hundertwasser	Gustav Klimt Victor Pasmore James Stirling
KS4	Richard Long	Joseph Cornell	Richard Deacon	Christo and Jean Claude	Rachel Whiteread	Sophie Knight	Referenced Alice Kettle	Antoni Gaudi Paulo Panini Julia Carter Preston

**Techniques**

	<b>N W Wirral</b>	<b>N E Wirral</b>	<b>The Birkenhead Dock System</b>	<b>Central Birkenhead</b>	<b>Bidston</b>	<b>Port Sunlight</b>	<b>Contrasts</b>	<b>Liverpool</b>
KS1	Drawing and Painting	Painting and Print	Textiles	Mixed Media	Weaving	Drawing		
KS2	Textiles and 3D	3D	Collage and Photo collage	3D (Ceramics)	Drawing / 3D	Painting Collage and ICT	Mural Design	
KS3	Print and 3D	Mixed Media	Painting and Printing	Batik / Puppet making	Drawing / Painting	3D	Painting Mosaics	Mixed Media
KS4	Environmental Sculpture	Mixed Media	Painting, Printing and Willow Sculpture	3D Containers	Mixed Media	Drawing and Painting	Graphics / Textiles	Mixed Media

## **Landscape**

Sense of place, landscape, change, environment, native, colour, texture, light, atmosphere, mood, sensuous, natural forms.

## **Portraiture**

Identity, image, portray, portraiture, self-portrait, self-image, self-identity, personality, likeness, icon, character, memorabilia, popular culture.

## **Culture**

Masks, masquerade, costume, culture, tradition, humour, celebration, weather, people, sketchbook, diary, museum.

# **Key Words**

## **The City**

Cities, architecture, buildings, shape, form, space, colour, noise, bustle, people, movement, grids, structures, street furniture, pollution, metropolis, landmarks, atmosphere.

## **Ideas**

First impressions, observe, analyse, describe, discuss, design, evaluate, imagine.

## **Drawing**

Drawing, sketching, sketchbooks, media, materials, process, sculpture, wire, ink, pastel, charcoal, line, paint, textiles, illustration, design, observation, poster, nature, life, digital imaging.

## **Recycling**

Recycling, environment, ordinary, everyday, scale, purpose, waste, treasure, beauty, domestic, fantastic, materials, sculpture, found objects, ready-made, rubbish, redundant, collections.

## **Cross Curricular Links**

An architectural based project gives pupils the chance to experience the following:

- observation and recording of information.
- imagination, conveyed in designing and drawing.
- comparison and deduction.
- literacy skills.
- map and plan reading.
- numeracy and scientific skills, measuring and estimation.
- social skills, sharing and discussing ideas.
- communication through design and drawing.
- Investigating, evaluating and problem solving.
- potential for individual and group activities.
- drama and dance developments.
- musical interpretations.
- humanities links.

## **Suggested Questions**

### **Analyse**

Can you tell for what sort of climate the building has been designed? How can you tell?

### **Observe**

What colours have been chosen and why? What effect do they have on the building?

### **First Impressions**

What is your personal response to this piece of architecture?

### **Describe**

Find ways to describe buildings using words and pictures.

### **Discuss**

Which building would you like most to work/live/play or study in? Explain why.

### **Design**

Choose one building and design one piece of furniture which would complement the building.

### **Evaluate**

In a group discuss the positive or negative aspects of a building (photograph provided).

### **Imagination**

Choose a particular building and think about what it would be like to live or work in it. Draw up a design brief for an imaginative building.

## DEFINITIONS

### Architect

An architect develops ideas and designs of a building for a client and then prepares drawings and specifications for its construction. He obtains the necessary approvals for the building and is also normally responsible for the supervision of construction work. Architects are involved in the refurbishment of old buildings as well as the design of new ones.

### Surveyor

There are several types of surveyor, but the ones involved with building are: Building Surveyors (carrying out structural surveys); and Quantity Surveyors (who control the cost of constructing a building from the Design Stage to the final completion of the contract).

### Builder

The sorts of work available in building include:

- Estimator: calculated the cost of labour, materials, etc, for a particular job.
- Planner: determines the most appropriate method and sequence of operations.
- Buyer: ensures that the materials, components and subcontracted work are obtained at the most competitive prices and are available on site at the correct time.
- Site manager: responsible for co-ordination, timing and profitability of the operations.
- Site engineer: prepares the site and subsequently makes sure that the building work is positioned correctly.
- Trades skills, for example, bricklayer, plumber and joiner.

### Structural Engineer

Structural engineers work closely with the architect, calculating the strength of the materials and designs and working with him to develop a sound building structure.

### Interior Designer

Design a concept for the interior space of a building and to oversee the fitting out of the interior including colour scheme, lighting, fixtures and fittings. The interior designer may have responsibility for choosing furniture designers and artists to work on the project.

## **Landscape Architect**

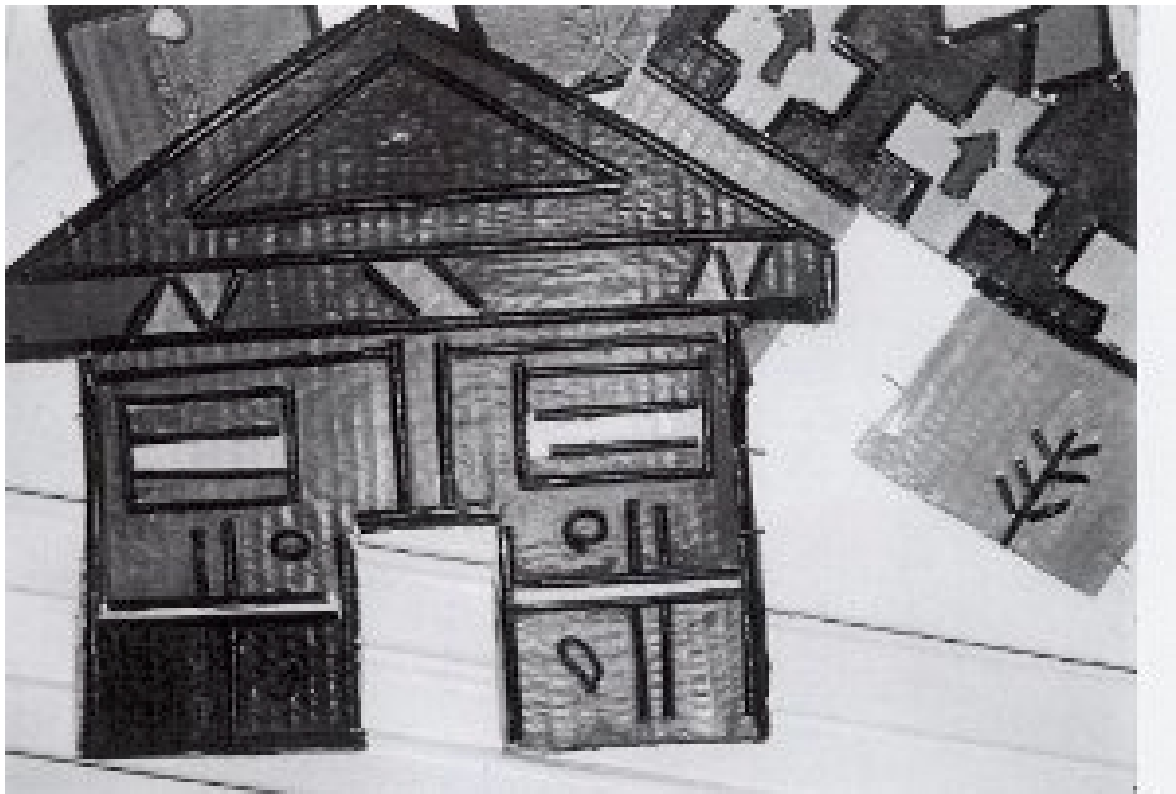
They work on the project from the start, designing a concept layout for the site.

## **Furniture Designer**

For some projects furniture designers will design bespoke furniture so that the work complements the overall design of the building.

## **Artist**

Completed work may be purchased for a building, or an artist may be commissioned to create works of art specifically for building and are likely to be engaged in the project before completion of the building. The art works may include paintings, photographs, installations of sculptures.



## VOCABULARY AND GLOSSARY OF TERMS

### **Aesthetic**

Sensitive to beautiful, artistic or tasteful qualities.

### **Aisle**

A passage or corridor, for example in a supermarket or church.

### **Arch**

A structure that forms a semi-circle or curve that spans an opening.

### **Arcade**

A series of arches along a wall covered by a walkway.

### **Architectural Plan**

A detailed two dimensional line drawing of a building including size and scale and technical information such as drainage, electricity and plumbing. Architects draw plans of the foundations of buildings as well as the different floors (rather like a bird's eye view).

### **Architrave**

A moulding around windows and doors.

### **Asymmetry**

Not symmetrical

### **Atrium**

A central court with the sky visible and rooms leading off.

### **Balance**

Even distribution of visual space of objects.

### **Balcony**

A platform on the outside of a building wall.

### **Baluster**

A vertical post used to support a handrail.

### **Balustrade**

A railing supported by balusters.

### **Base**

The lower part of a wall, column or pier.

### **Bay window**

A window projected from an external wall.

### **Bond**

A method of laying bricks in a regular pattern to build a wall.

### **Build**

To construct a structure by joining materials together.

### **Buttress**

Projecting support built against a wall.

### **Capital**

The top part of a column which carries the entablature.

### **Cast Iron**

A metal which is melted down then poured into a mould (cast) which can be used for decoration.

### **Cement**

A mixture of powdered and baked limestone which is mixed with water and used to bond or cover other materials.

### **Classical**

Greek and Roman architecture and any subsequent styles inspired by it.

### **Colonnade**

Range of columns.

**Column**

A cylindrical post which often has a base and a capital.

**Compression**

A force within a structure that pushes together.

**Concrete**

A man-made stone formed by mixing together water, crushed stone and sand with a bonding agent.

**Construct**

To build.

**Contemporary**

Belonging to the moment.

**Cornice**

A moulding between the ceiling and the wall or at the top of an external wall.

**Course**

A row, for example, of bricks in the wall.

**Culture**

Customs and way of life of a group of people, ie beliefs, art and traditions.

**Cupola**

A small domed shape roof.

**Dado**

Decorative covering of the lower part of a wall.

**Dome**

A curved roof on a circular base, rather like half a ball or onion.

**Dormer**

A window projecting from a roof.

**Drum**

A circular wall that carries a dome. Also a cylindrical block of stone in a column.

**Eaves**

Under the lower edge of the roof, projecting from the wall.

**Elevation**

This is a two-dimensional line drawing, usually detailed, of the face of one side of a building.

**Entablature**

In classical architecture the whole of the horizontal members above a column (that is, architrave, qv, frieze, qv, and cornice,qv).

**Façade**

The main face of front of a building.

**Finial**

An ornamental top on a gable roof.

**Frame**

A structural support made to form a self-supporting cage.

**French window**

Windows which open like doors.

**Frieze**

A decorative element running along a wall, under a ceiling for example.

**Gable**

The triangular end of a wall and roof or canopy.

**Geometric**

Regular forms, ie circle, square, triangle.

**High tech**

A style based on a fascination with new technology. High-tech materials include aluminium, glass and neoprene.

**Keystone**

The central stone of an arch which supports the arch and stops it collapsing.

**Masonry**

The construction using bricks etc. bonded together with mortar.

**Mezzanine**

Low storey placed between two higher ones.

**Modernism**

Generally used to describe the 'abstract' architecture pioneered by such as Walter Gropius and the Bauhaus, Mies van der Rohe and Le Corbusier.

**Mortar**

A mixture of lime and water used as a bed for setting stone in walls. Modern mortar is made from Portland cement.

**Mortise and Tenon**

A basic wood joint.

**Orientation**

A place's location in regards to the sun's path or direction, ie North, South, East or West.

**Palladian**

Classically inspired architecture following the ideas and principles of Andrea Palladio (1508-80).

**Pediment**

Low pitched gable used in Classical, Renaissance, and Neo-classical architecture above doors, windows, etc. It may be straight sided, or curved segmentally. Broken pediment: one where the centre portion of the sloping sides is left out.

**Period**

A particular part of history.

**Piano nobile**

Principal storey of a house with the reception rooms; usually the first floor.

**Pillar**

A free-standing column or support.

**Plinth**

A base.

**Porch**

An entrance with a roof.

**Portal**

An imposing entrance to a building.

**Portico**

Centrepiece of a house of church with Classical column and a pediment.

**Post-modernism**

A broad description for work that rejects the simplicity of modernism and includes ornament and historical references.

**Quoin**

The corner-stone of a building, which can be either structural or decorative.

**Rafter**

One of the main elements in the structural frame of a roof.

**Roof**

Upper covering of a building, providing shelter.

**Room**

A space within a building usually for a specific purpose ie attic, cellar, kitchen, bedroom and sitting room.

**Rustication**

Masonry term for a rough external finish intended to simulate a natural rock surface.

**Scale**

The proportion of a real building in relation to its representation on paper.

**Section drawing**

A drawing of a building seen as if the building had been cut through vertically, to give information about the internal structure of the building.

**Shelter**

A structure that provides protection.

**Sill**

Horizontal part at the bottom of a window inside and out, sloped outside to allow water to run off.

**Strength**

Strong with lasting quality.

**Style**

Distinctive characteristics of period of person.

**Stucco**

Plaster work, rendering (qv).

**Symmetry**

The arrangement of parts around a central line or point.

**Technical drawing**

A working drawing of how the building is to be built.

**Tension**

A force that stretches and pulls apart.

**Three dimensional drawing**

A drawing that shows how the building will look overall, indicating height, width and depth.

**Timber**

Wood used as a building material.

**Turret**

A small slim tower.

**Vault**

A space with an arched ceiling

**Volume**

The space contained within an object.

**Wainscott**

Panelling, woodwork, lower part of an interior wall when lined with different material from that of the upper part.

**Weatherboarding**

Overlapping horizontal board covering an outer wall.

**Windows**

*Sash:* one with vertically sliding frames.

*Casement:* one which opens vertical hinges.

*Dormer:* one placed vertically on the sloping plane of a roof.

*Bay window:* angular or curved projection of a house front with ample fenestration. If curved, also called bow-window. If on an upper floor only, also called oriel or oriel window.

## Useful Web Sites

Wirral Education Authority  
Schoolart Limited  
National Society of Art & Design NSEAD  
National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside  
National Gallery, London  
Tate Gallery, London  
Modern Painters  
Dorling Kindersley Bookshop  
Crafts Council  
Yorkshire Sculpture Park  
RIBA Royal Institute of British Architects

[www.Wirral-mbc.gov.uk](http://www.Wirral-mbc.gov.uk)  
[www.schoolart.co.uk](http://www.schoolart.co.uk)  
[www.nsead.org](http://www.nsead.org)  
[www.nmgm.org.uk](http://www.nmgm.org.uk)  
[www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)  
[www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)  
[www.modernpainters.co.uk](http://www.modernpainters.co.uk)  
[www.dk.com](http://www.dk.com)  
[www.craftscouncil.org.uk](http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk)  
[education@usp.co.uk](mailto:education@usp.co.uk)  
[www.riba.net](http://www.riba.net) go into  
architecture gallery

