

QAG

Lloyd Rees

Life and Light



EDUCATION RESOURCE

GOMA

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Lloyd Rees was born in Brisbane on 17 March 1895. He was well known for his sketches of Brisbane at the time and studied at the Central Technical College. Rees moved to Sydney in 1917 to work for Sydney Ure Smith at the Smith & Julius Studio, one of Australia's earliest advertising agencies to feature art works and colour printing, which provided regular work for artists and set new standards for the advertising industry.

Ure Smith encouraged and commissioned Rees to draw the architecture and landscapes of Sydney. In this exhibition, you can see his observations of Brisbane buildings, streets and landscapes, and his fascination with the effect of light on his subjects, which continued throughout his career.

In his later years, Lloyd Rees's works became more abstract as he began to focus specifically on sources and effects of light. Despite his rapidly failing eyesight, Rees continued to paint, claiming that a benefit of its deterioration was that he was able to look directly at the sun.

Key ideas to explore

- Portraiture
- Architecture
- Drawing
- Landscape
- Draughting
- Illustration
- Urban scenery
- Scale



Lloyd Rees as a young man / Image courtesy: Fryer Library, University of Queensland

DID YOU KNOW?

Lloyd Rees painted *The sunlit tower* 1986 when he was 91 years old. This work won the Queensland Art Gallery's Jack Manton Prize in 1987 and is included in this exhibition.

Lloyd Rees's art works have been included in major surveys of Australian art since 1923, and he is represented in all public and many private collections throughout the country.

IN THE GALLERY

Which technique?

While you are walking through the exhibition, look closely at the different shading techniques Lloyd Rees has used. We have started a table below for you to complete. Once you have completed the table, think of two additional techniques that could be used for toning and shading and list these in the table.

TECHNIQUE NAME	TECHNIQUE EXAMPLE	DESCRIBE THE EFFECT
Hatching		
Stippling		
Toning		

Lloyd Rees was once engaged to be married to Queensland sculptor Daphne Mayo, and there is a bronze sculpture of Lloyd Rees by Mayo in this exhibition.

DID YOU KNOW?

IN THE CLASSROOM

It is easier to draw a face by concentrating on one part of it at a time. Using a small mirror will help you to focus on a particular area. Follow the steps below to create your own self-portrait:

Step 1 – Use the mirror to focus on an aspect of your face and draw these with a 2B pencil on different A5 sheets of paper, to be cut out later. (You may wish to start with your nose and draw your right eye, ear and so on until you have drawn all the components of your face.) Simply sketch the images, as shading and colour can be added once your self-portrait is assembled.

Step 2 - Cut the fragments out from the sheet and assemble them on the bigger sheet to a complete the face. (If there are noticeable size differences between the parts, try repeating step one and adjust your sketch accordingly.)

Step 3 - Glue the assembled parts onto the bigger sheet to get a complete portrait. Then rework this image by drawing missing connections between the parts. These may include creases around your eyes or mouth, or a freckle on your face.

Step 4 – You may wish to add shading and colour to your drawing.



TEACHER NOTES

Curriculum links and connections

Planning and assessing students' engagement with Lloyd Rees's drawings, specifically by encouraging them to:

- appraise art works and embrace drawing practices to create their own informed responses
- value the contributions of Australian artists and their unique perspective of people, landscapes and buildings
- explore the ways that art works reflect people, society, culture and the environment.

A visit to 'Lloyd Rees: Life and Light' can address the following curriculum areas:

Visual Arts

- ideas and inspiration, innovative ways of drawing
- materials and techniques used by Australian artists
- the way that Australian artists respond to and represent people and places
- analysis and interpretation of art works using appropriate arts language
- examine and affirm personal and community perspectives relating to past and present, social, cultural, spiritual, economic, political, environmental and vocational contexts

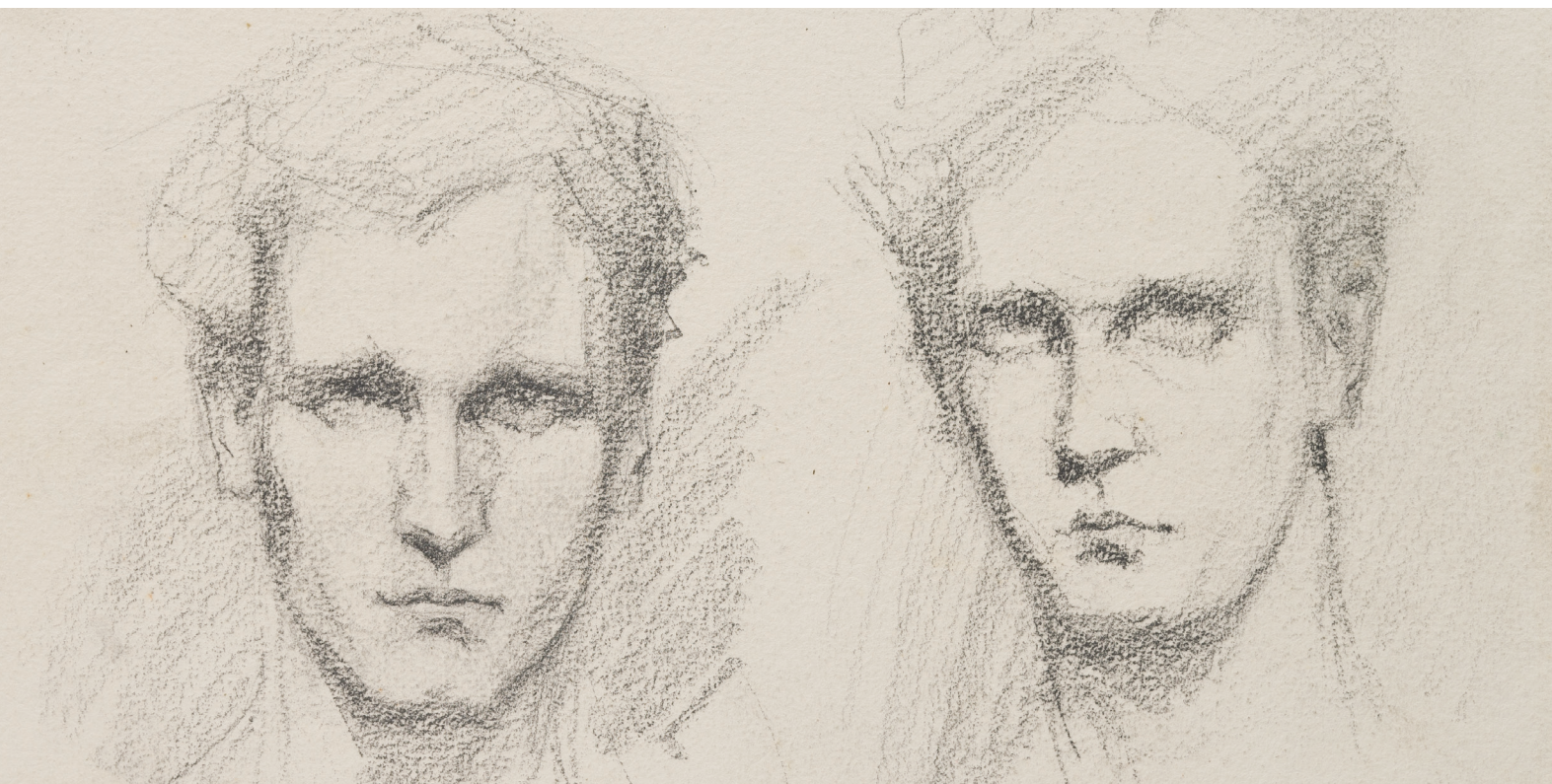
English

- responding verbally to visual images
- creative writing and responding
- writing critical essays and reviews

Studies of Society and the Environment (SOSE)

- Time, continuity and change
- discussing changes and continuities in places and historical interpretations and how different or similar they are to present day perspectives
- exploration of Australian landscapes and architecture
- art works as commentary about interconnectedness between humans, society and environment.

Lloyd Rees / *Self portraits* (detail) c.1912–17 / Pencil / Gift of Alan and Jan Rees through the Queensland Art Gallery Foundation 1999 / Collection: Queensland Art Gallery / © Lloyd Rees c.1912–17. Licensed by Viscopy, Sydney 2012



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