



Art

Hilma af Klint

1862-1944

Abstract Art

Year 1 Unit 1

Knowledge Organiser

Key Vocabulary:

Core Knowledge

Abstract art	Artwork made from colour, shape and pattern rather than objects which you recognise.
Composition	Where the shapes or objects are put in a picture.

Technical Vocabulary

Primary colours	A set of colours (red, yellow, and blue) from which all other colours can be created by mixing.
Secondary colours	A colour resulting from the mixing of two primary colours.
Mixed media	Using lots of different art materials to make one piece of work.

Key Works of Art



Group X, Altarpieces, No. 1 (1915)
Inspired by her divine guidance.



The Ten Largest, No. 2, Childhood (1907)
This is one of a whole series which follows the lifecycle of a human from infant through to old age.

Biography



Hilma af Klint
1862- 1944

- Hilma af Klint was born in 1862, in Solna, Sweden. She was the fourth of five children.
- Following the death of her ten year old sister, Hermina when af Klint was just eighteen years old Klint became interested in spirits and angels.
- At the age of twenty, in 1882, she went to study at the Royal Academy of Arts in Stockholm.
- In 1896, with four female artist friends, af Klint established *The Five (de Fem)*. The group conducted meetings where they would discuss spirits and angels every week until 1906, experimenting with a more natural way of making art.
- Her fascination with the invisible world continued and was echoed by the invention of the X-ray machine.
- At age 44, af Klint started on her most creative phase of abstract painting. She had produced 193 works, each of which belonged to one of six series all under the name *Paintings for the Temple*. Af Klint said that she had 'divine guidance' for these works in the form of a spiritual guide.
- In 1920 she started exploring world religions and studying the forms of flowers and trees.
- She knew that her works would not be appreciated by the people of her time, so she left all her creations to her nephew. Stating in her will that they should only be made public twenty years after her death.
- When she died in 1944, almost 82 years old, none of her abstract works had ever been shown to the public.