

John Virtue

What Does John Virtue Create?

John Virtue is a British artist known for his large, black-and-white landscape paintings. He uses only black ink and white paint because he believes colour is a distraction. His artworks often show cities and seas, mixing real places with imagination. He paints with strong lines and big brush strokes.



Fun Activities

1. Make your own black and white painting using ink or paint
2. Monochrome doesn't necessarily mean you only work in black and white. You can work in tones of any colour. Try painting a green tree in a green garden - just use green tones.
3. When John Virtue was Resident Artist at the National Gallery in London, he used to wake at dawn and go up on the roof to sketch views of London. He sketched and painted for two years to create his work. Here are some of his sketches.



Go on a walk and sketch a place using only a black pen.