

HIGHSTED'S A-LEVEL ART DEPARTMENT PRESENTS...

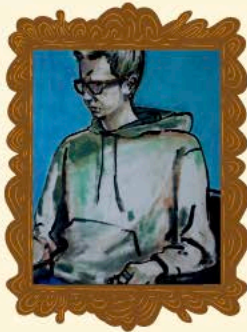
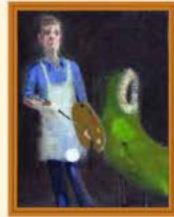
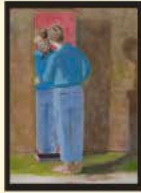
THE HIGHSTED ART DEPARTMENT WAS DELIGHTED TO WELCOME LOCAL ARTIST CHARLES WILLIAMS TO THE SCHOOL IN LATE NOVEMBER TO DELIVER A TALK ON HIS INSPIRATIONS, TECHNIQUES, WORKS, AND WHAT IT'S REALLY LIKE TO BE AN ARTIST WORKING IN THE INDUSTRY!

The Highsted Art Department was delighted to welcome local artist Charles Williams to the school in late November to deliver a talk on his inspirations, techniques, works, and what it's really like to be an artist working in the industry!

The school's A-Level Art students had the opportunity to see Williams' most recent and favourite works, and were invited to ask questions and engage with the artist as he explained his influences and processes to the class. Williams' rich medium of improvisatory storytelling through his self-described "collage of styles" inspired the students to challenge themselves to connect with the observer; he emphasised the importance of evoking a "visceral response" to one's work, which could be accomplished by taking risks and testing the limits of the mediums they use.

Students also received a live demonstration of Charles Williams' watercolour techniques that he uses for his own works; a famously difficult medium to work with, watercolour tests both an artist's patience and skill, so having a brief but engaging tutorial on the basics of the medium (including the importance of paper density, holding a paintbrush correctly and mixing colours according to the colour wheel) was both enlightening and beneficial for the students.

Following the visit, the students created their own responses to Williams' work in their coursework sketchbooks, utilising their newfound techniques whilst taking inspiration from the artist's most interesting pieces. Students found the talk immensely valuable; one student commented that "[she] found it really important to see how his interests and every day life has influenced his art... [she] also found it very engaging as he demonstrated how to use these different mediums and has inspired [her] to get out of [her] comfort zone in art and explore different mediums."



LOCAL ARTIST

CHARLES WILLIAMS