

Exploring Skylines

Study Room Activity

Research Challenge: Use these questions to explore the drawings.

The artist or architects' intentions:

- Who do you think the image is for?
- What do you think were the artist or architect's aims and intentions?

Analysing the image:

- Do you think this is a real or imaginary place?
- What types of building can you see in the drawing?
- What materials are the buildings or fragments made out of?
- Can you find out the name of the artist or architect and what date the drawing was made?
- Is there any annotation such as words or numbers on the drawings? If so, what do they tell you?
- Does the artist or architect show a whole building, a fragment of a building or a detail of a building?
- What shapes and details make the buildings or fragments interesting?
- What materials has the artist or architect used to create the image?
- Has the artist or architect used a traditional or contemporary drawing style?
- How has the artist or architect used line, colour and tone?

- What viewpoint has artist or architect chosen, and how does this impact on your view of the buildings and spaces in between? Is there a focal point?
- Does the image have a foreground, middle ground and back ground?
- Has the artist or architect used perspective? If so, can you find the vanishing point?
- Has the artist or architect used scale to add drama? If so, can you describe how.
- Has the artist or architect included people, animals or natural forms? If so, can you identify where and what effect they have.
- What preliminary work do you think the artist or architect did to research and record this image?

Your Personal Responses:

- Do you recognise, and can you name, any of these buildings?
- Are there any details shown in the image that are new, old, or unfamiliar?
- What words would you use to describe this place or building?
- What smells and sounds might you find in this environment?
- Do you think this is a successful design proposal?
- What skyline would you choose for a city? High rise or low-rise? Traditional or contemporary style buildings? A mixture? Explain why.
- If you were making a composition of a skyline would you create an imaginary or real place?