

FEATURED ARTIST: TERESA LEYRELOUP



My name is **Tess Leyreloup** and I'm a multi media artist. I basically use whatever materials I feel are most appropriate at the time usually a textile and paint combo. I originally trained at Reading university and after graduating from The Institute of Education with a P.G.C.E in Art I taught at both Ridgeway School and Devonport High School for Girls as Head of Department for a while. Whilst I loved teaching young people I felt frustrated that I would quite often feel too wiped out to work on my own work and having a young family at the time I simply gave up teaching for a while. Now however I teach arts and crafts to mainly adults through the On Course South West organisation and have more time to develop my own work.

Above: **Spirituality**, acrylic & mixed media

ASK THE ARTIST

What is the best work related thing you have done recently?

So what am I currently working on? Well I'm looking at the theme of Consciousness (no half measures with me!) I am fascinated with the idea of trying to capture the ephemeral and the eternal. My previous theme of 'memories' and dreams led me to evolve quite a narrative and multi layered approach in the presentation of my work and I have kept with this genre in the 'consciousness' project.

What irritates you?

What really gets my goat is rubbish dumped in natural environments! I'm forever picking up trash from such places much to the chagrin of my kids.

Where's your favourite place?

So I suppose you expect me to say that my favourite place is Nevana (lol) but seriously I would have to say the coastal paths of Devon and Cornwall. We are so lucky to live here aren't we?

Who would be your fantasy dinner party guests?

If I had a fantasy dinner guest situation it would probably be best if I didn't cook but I suppose I would like the following to come round for a take away Chinese; Mary Pankhurst, Nelson Mandela, Jesus, Mary and Hitler. I feel that these characters would provide a sparky evening and it would be interesting to see the dynamics going on across that dining table!



Above: **Costal Walk Memories**, acrylic & mixed media

Below: **Union**, acrylic & mixed media

Diane Leyreloup did an MA in Art at Plymouth University. She painted abstract paintings mainly using acrylics. The landscape was a great source of inspiration for her and she loved the Dartmoor landscape in particular. The bleakness of WW1 No man's land was also another recurrent theme. Her sense of colour was always evocative. A much missed local artist.



What motivates and inspires you?

To this end I have watched loads of TED talks on YouTube and really got my teeth into sketchbook work (revisiting an old passion!). My other source of inspiration has been the deaths of two family members - the dear Diane Leyreloup being one of those members.

Having someone close die can make you reappraise the meaning of life with new vigour and sympathy.

What's your favourite book or film?

I've read quite a varied selection of books recently, one being 'Born Liars' by Ian Leslie - a quirky and informative look at the evolution of lying within human development. As a contrast to this 'Mamma Mia, Revisited' is my current favourite film, simply a feel good movie. Don't judge me!

