

Activity Sheet

Iguazu Falls

By Emma Stibbon
Chalk on Blackboard
2009
70 x 60 cm

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Discuss the following questions with your group in front of the painting

What are your first reactions to the work? What do you think is happening?

The artist Stibbon is interested in how you feel whilst drawing. How do you think she felt whilst making 'Iguazu Falls'? Why?

Look at the materials the artist has used. Why do you think she has chosen to use chalk on a blackboard?

Stibbon chooses subjects that seem fragile. How do you think that this waterfall is fragile? Which words would you use to describe 'Iguazu Falls'?

About the Artist

Emma Stibbon is an artist and lecturer at the University of Brighton concerned with an artist's response to location. Exhibiting since 1997, she is interested in environments that are changing: for example, a man-made building in a state of demolition or an eroded landscape. Stibbon's interest is focused on how the apparently monumental can also be fragile. She is always looking for "something strange in the visual world".

Stibbon has exhibited all over the world, and her works can be found in many public and private collections. She is part of the LAND2 art research group, interested in place-oriented drawing practice. Her most recent project was an Arts Council-funded research trip to Antarctica, charting a ship's journey through the Antarctic Convergence to the ice landscape of the Peninsula.

Suggested extension activities

1. Creative Writing

Imagine that you are in a rowing boat that has been carried off course to Iguaza Falls in Argentina! Be as imaginative as you can by recording your feelings as you meet the waterfall. How do you react as you meet the edge? Why are you in Argentina? Who is in the boat with you? Do you survive to tell the tale?

2. Make a soundscape

In small groups create a soundscape from the source of the river through to the thundering waterfall. At first use just your voices to recreate the sounds of the river, thinking about volume, pitch, rhythm and tone. Now think about using objects around you to create the sounds. Can you make a new instrument that sounds like rushing water?

Perform it to a group asking the audience to close their eyes. Where do they imagine that they are?