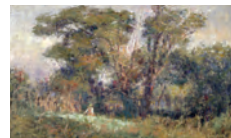


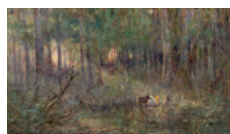
Self-portrait c 1908
oil on canvas
48.5 x 41 cm
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra,
purchased 1977



Arrival of the Duke and Duchess of York, Melbourne, 1901 c 1908
oil on canvas
59.4 x 89.8 cm
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, purchased with the assistance of a special grant from the Government of Victoria, 1979



The old garden c 1910
oil on canvas
56 x 91.5 cm
State art collection, Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth, purchased with funds from the Great Australian Paintings Appeal, 1978



Violet and gold 1911
oil on canvas
72 x 130 cm
National Gallery of Australia, Canberra, purchased with the generous assistance of the Hon Ashley Dawson-Damer and John Wylie AM and Myriam Wylie, 2008



Gardener's cottage, Como c 1909
pencil
25 x 35.1 cm
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, gift of Hugh McCubbin, 1960



Moonrise 1909
oil on canvas
77 x 92 cm
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne, purchased with the assistance of a special grant from the Government of Victoria, 1979



Williamstown c 1909
watercolour
16.8 x 24.5 cm
Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide, gift of TC Lothian, 1962



The blue Mediterranean 1907
oil on canvas-textured paper board
17.5 x 25.5 cm
private collection



Collins Street c 1915
oil on canvas on cardboard
25 x 35.3 cm
Geelong Gallery, Victoria, HP Douglass Bequest Fund, 1945



DISCOVERY TRAIL

McCUBBIN: LAST IMPRESSIONS 1907–17

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Developed by: NGA Education
Produced by: NGA Publishing
Photography: NGA Imaging
in conjunction with the exhibition
McCubbin: Last Impressions 1907–17

National Gallery of Australia, Canberra
14 August – 1 November 2009

Art Gallery of Western Australia, Perth
12 December 2009 – 28 March 2010

Bendigo Art Gallery
24 April – 25 July 2010

Proudly sponsored by



(Cover image)
The cottage children
(Rain and sunshine) 1910
oil on canvas 74.7 x 49.5 cm
private collection

(Opposite page)
Walter Withers
Fred McCubbin painting c 1910 (detail)
pencil on cream paper, 32.3 x 26.2 cm
State Library of Victoria, Melbourne, purchased 1992

Connect the words

Australian impressionist artist	1901
A tool used to apply paint	green
Paint that blends easily and dries slowly	palette knife
Material used by an artist	purple
Yellow mixed with red makes	watercolour
Can show direction and movement	oil paint
Transparent paint	Frederick McCubbin
Colour opposite yellow	brushstrokes
Blue mixed with yellow makes	Paddy
How an artist uses materials	medium
Federation of Australia	primary colours
McCubbin's dog	orange
Red, yellow and blue	technique



DISCOVERY TRAIL

McCUBBIN: LAST IMPRESSIONS 1907–17

This discovery trail will show you the artist's painting and drawing methods. Find out how Frederick McCubbin applied colour and what mediums and techniques he used.

The drawing on this page shows you how McCubbin held his palette while painting. An artist's palette is a thin, rounded board on which paint is mixed.

How to use this trail

- Fold the palette shape in the back of the trail over each of the images to look at a small section of the work of art.
- Read the text and answer the questions.
- The colour wheel in the back of the booklet will help you.



Meet the artist

Frederick McCubbin was born in Melbourne in 1855 during the Gold Rush. He loved to draw and paint the landscape around the city.

He was an art teacher and enjoyed spending time with his wife and six children. The artist often included them in his paintings. McCubbin's daughter, Kathleen, and her friend were the models for the painting on the cover of the discovery trail. The family also had a dog called Paddy.

Self-portrait c 1908 (detail)



COLOUR

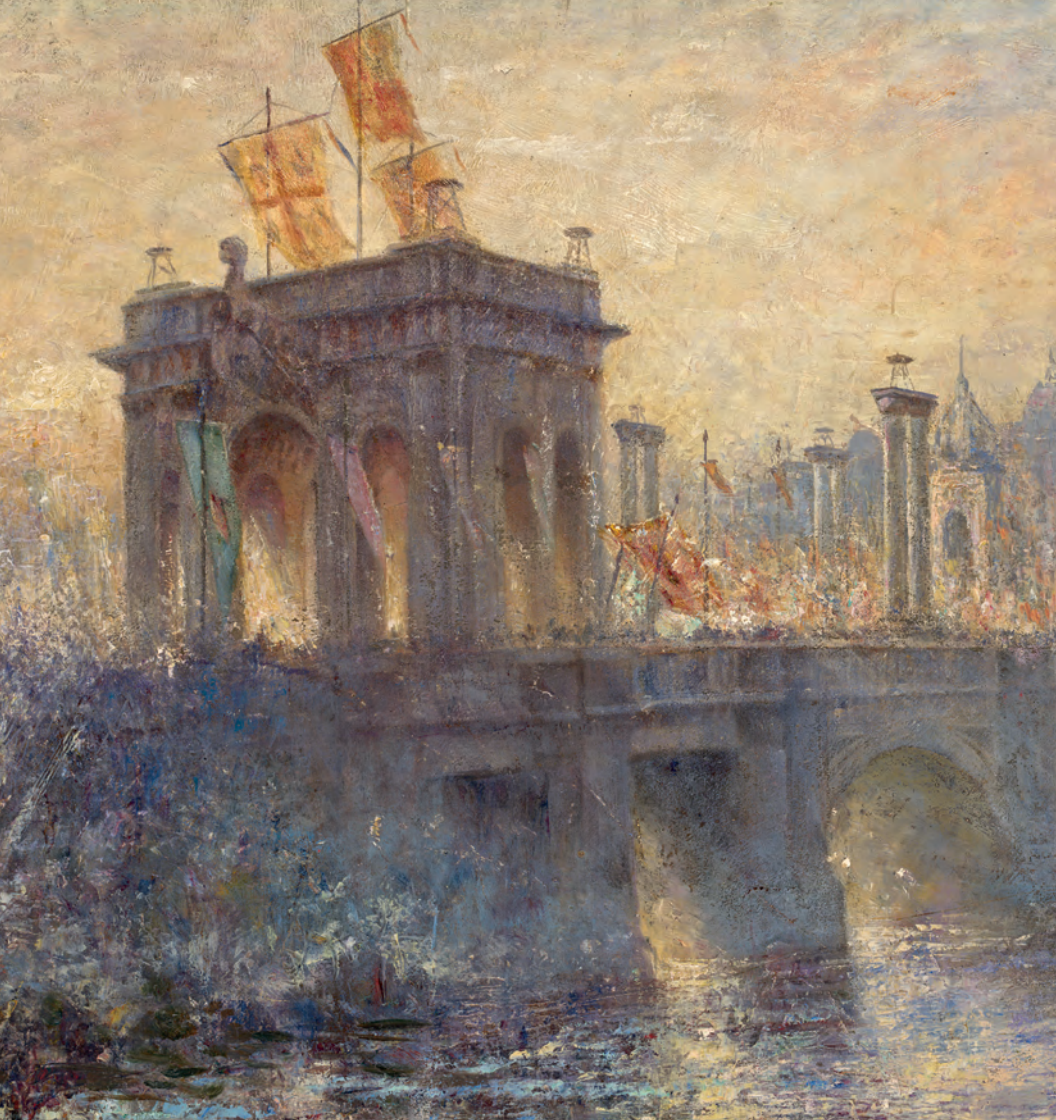
Orange

A bridge decorated with cheerful orange flags celebrates the federation of Australia in 1901.

- What colours do you mix together to make orange?
- Where can you see blue in this painting?
- What colour is opposite blue on the colour wheel?



Arrival of the Duke and Duchess of York, Melbourne, 1901 c 1908 (detail)



COLOUR

Green

McCubbin loved to paint the landscape near his home in Melbourne.

- What colour did he use to paint the sunlight and shadows?
- Name the greens you can see in this painting of the artist's garden.



The old garden c 1910 (detail)



COLOUR

Purple

The setting sun casts purple shadows on the trunks of these towering gum trees.

- What colours are mixed together to make purple?
- Why do you think the artist has called this painting *Violet and gold*?



Violet and gold 1911 (detail)



MEDIUM

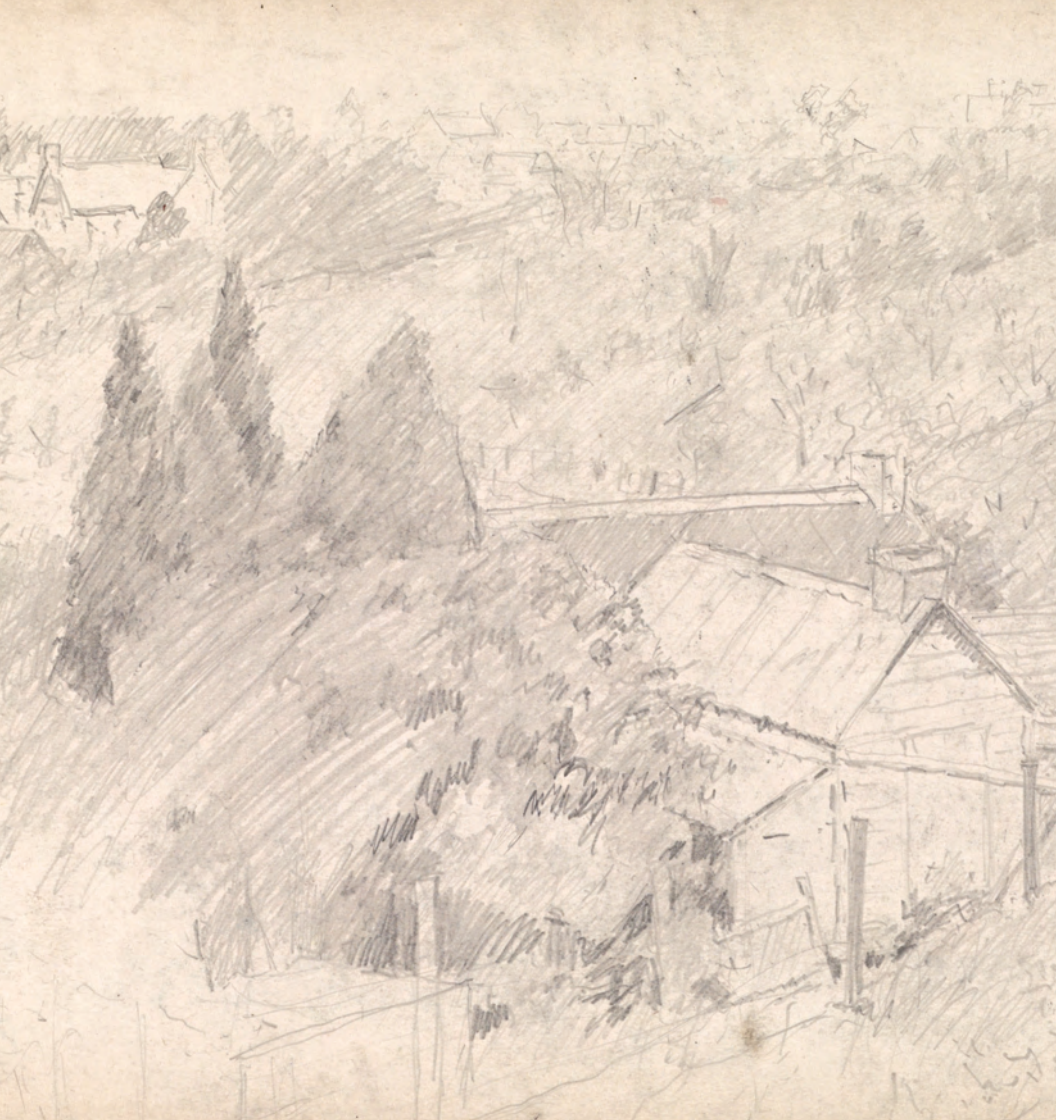
Drawing

This gardener's cottage was near Frederick McCubbin's home. He used a rolled ball of bread to smudge and blend parts of his sketch.

- Can you see where he did this?
- Why did he smudge this area?
- Find marks that are soft, short, long and dark.



Gardener's cottage, Como c 1909 (detail)



MEDIUM

Oil painting

Moonrise is an oil painting which includes the gardener's cottage from McCubbin's sketch on the previous page.

Oil paint takes time to dry and is easy to blend.

- Find where the artist has used thin layers of paint to show smoke from the chimney, the reflection of moonlight on the water and the soft atmosphere of twilight.



Moonrise 1909 (detail)



MEDIUM

Watercolour

Colour pigments mixed with water are called watercolours. Watercolour is transparent, which means it allows the paper underneath to show through. This helped McCubbin paint the cloudy sky and shimmering water.

- Find red, blue and yellow brushstrokes in this painting.



Williamstown c 1909 (detail)



TECHNIQUE

Brushstrokes

Many separate brushstrokes create the sea and sky in this painting.

- How does McCubbin make the surface of the water move?
- Why has he included patches of white in the water?



The blue Mediterranean 1907 (detail)



TECHNIQUE

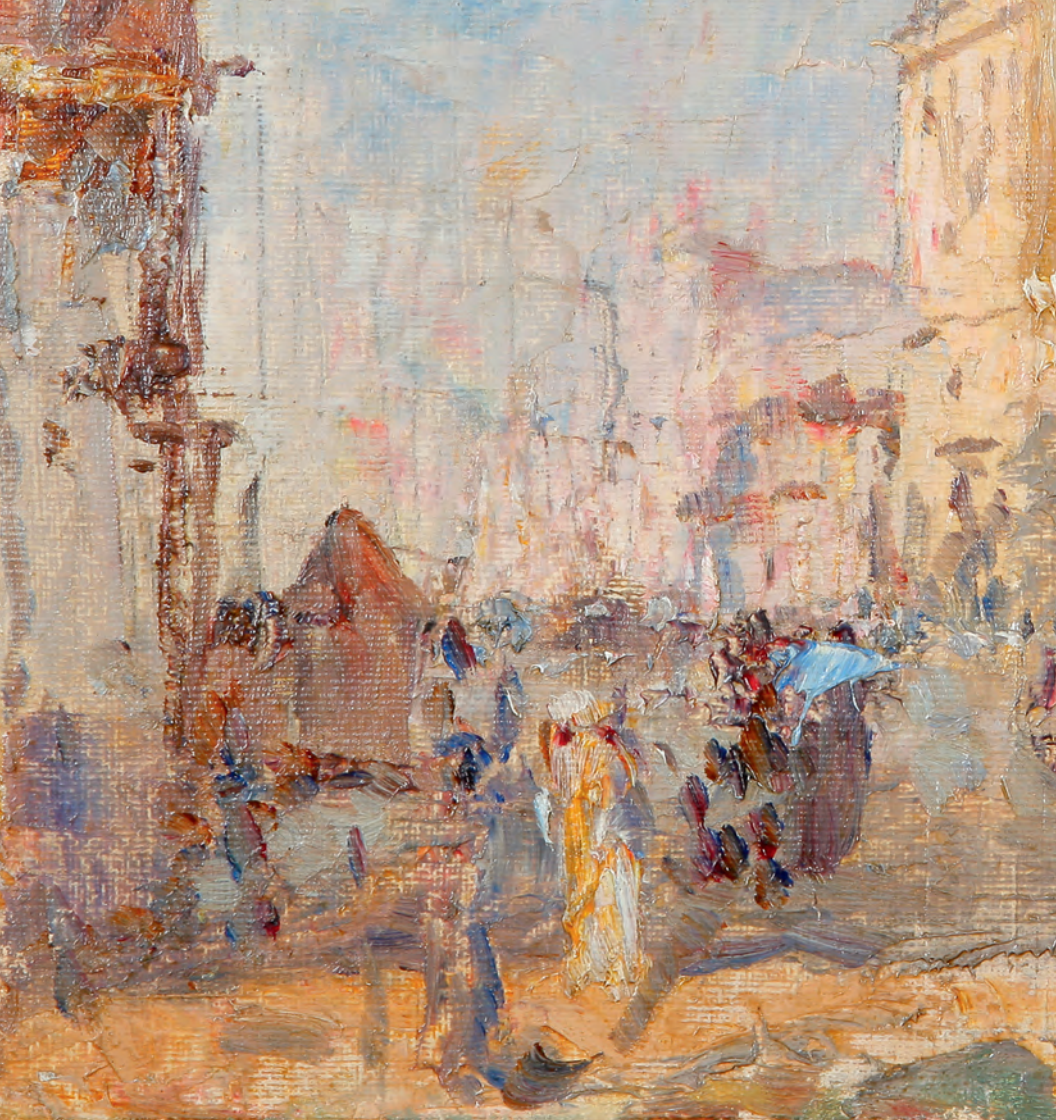
Palette knife

McCubbin painted a busy street in Melbourne sitting in the back of his car. He used thick oil paint and applied it quickly with a palette knife.

- Why did he paint quickly?



Collins Street c 1915 (detail)



Colour wheel

