Art Gallery NSW



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### POSTER ART

This poster was designed by Alphonse Mucha for the play *Gismonda*, starring the famous French actor Sarah Bernhardt.

Look closely at the way Mucha uses shapes and mosaic patterns to frame Bernhardt.

Design a poster for your favourite story character using shapes and patterns.



Cover: *Peonies* 1897–98 (detail) This page: *Gismonda* 1894 (detail)

All works by Alphonse Mucha © Mucha Trust 2024

Children's trail @ Art Gallery of New South Wales 2024

The Art Gallery of New South Wales acknowledges the Gadigal of the Eora Nation, the traditional custodians of the Country on which it stands.



This page is from Mucha's book *Le Pater*, illustrating the Lord's Prayer from the Christian Bible.

Notice the plants and flowers that surround the lettering, and the shapes, borders and symmetry used in the design.

Design a page using images from nature and symmetrical shapes surrounding the title of your favourite song.

At home, create your own illustrated storybook.

ILLUSTRATED PAGE

#### **SWEET TREAT**

Mucha designed packaging for all sorts of products, such as biscuits, soap and chocolate.

Notice the patterned borders, shapes and decorative figures on this box. What does the design tell you about the biscuits it once contained?

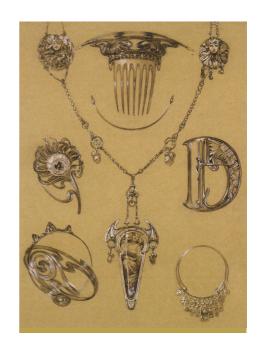
Design packaging for your favourite sweet treat



These jewellery designs include elements from nature, curving lines and asymmetry – all popular motifs in the art nouveau style. How many faces can you spot?

Find more of Mucha's jewellery designs. Which piece would you like to wear?

Draw a special item of jewellery for someone you love.



### JEWELLERY DESIGNS

At home, design and make your own jewellery using paper, string and beads.

# HOPE IN THE DARKNESS

Mucha's painting of a woman in the snow was inspired by the terrible suffering the Russian and Ukrainian people experienced during the early 20th century.

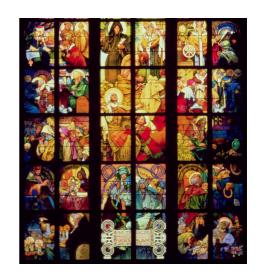
Describe the woman's expression. Notice the bright star in the sky above, bringing a glimmer of hope.

Draw a series of faces expressing different emotions.



At home, sketch and take photos of someone in a dramatic pose and use them to make a painting. Mucha created this design for a large stained-glass window in St Vitus Cathedral, Prague. The window was made up of many sections and each part had to be carefully planned so the design could be scaled up (enlarged).

Develop a series of figure drawings to fill the panels in this grid.





At home, find out how to enlarge your drawing using the grid method.

## PETALS AND FLOWERS

Mucha designed this poster for a ballet-pantomime called *Princess Hyacinth*. The shapes of hyacinth flowers and petals are used throughout the poster.

What is your favourite plant or flower? Use its form to design a headpiece.



At home, draw close studies of petals and flowers and turn them into decorative designs.

Princess Hyacinth 1911 (detail)