

WINTER

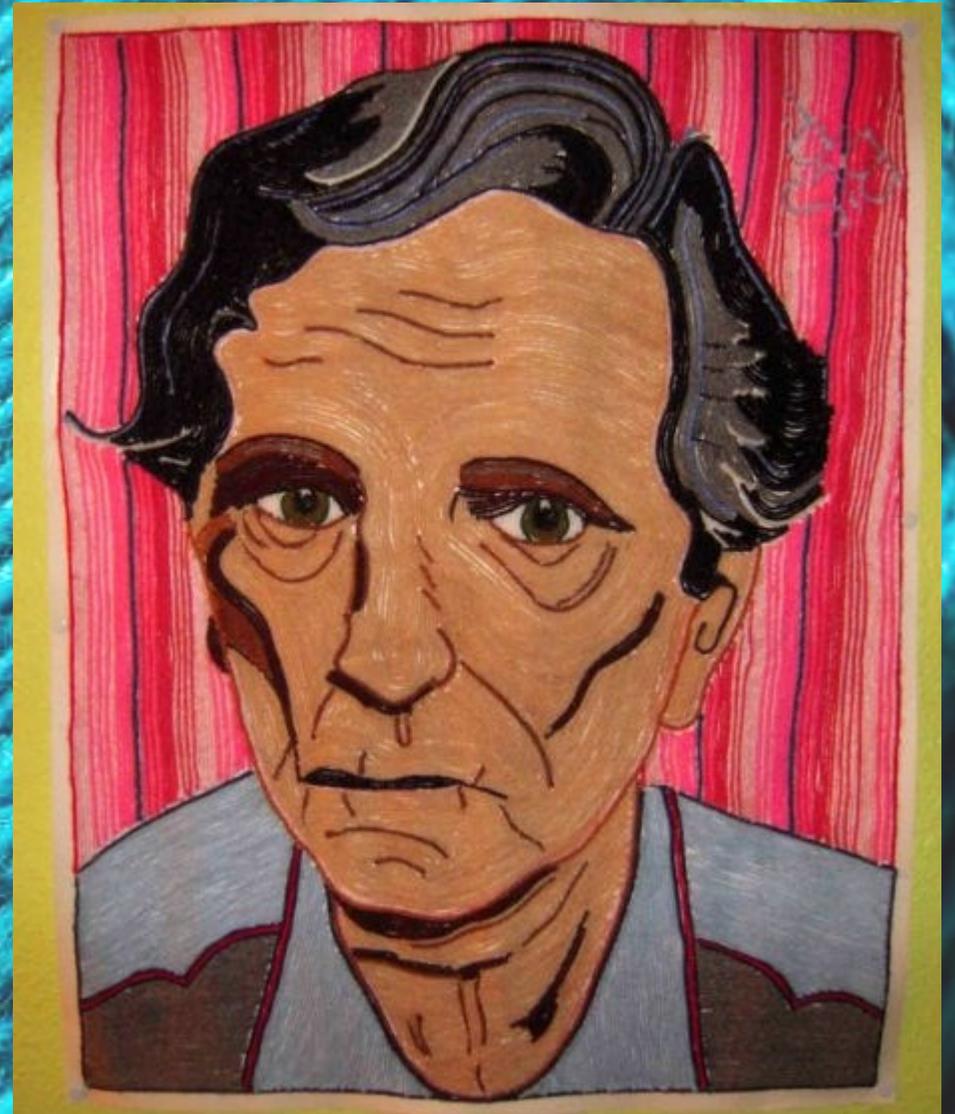
Woolly

Yarns & Spins

Created by Eve Williams Creative Learning & Public Programs Officer
Devonport Regional Gallery



Task: Create a picture of your choice (abstract or other) using yarn as your material.



Yarn portraits by Brandy Lynn and Paul from Alltheway Emporium. https://www.etsy.com/shop/BrandyLynnAndPaul?ref=seller_info



Huichol Yarn Painting. See a YouTube tutorial on this here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AscvmA8-4aE>
Huichol yarn painting is a traditional native Mexican method of creating pictures that tell stories through incorporating symbolism.

Another interesting watch: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hrBEEed7aydw>

History of the Huichol People.

The Huichol (pronounced wee-chol) are an indigenous ethnic group descended from the Aztec people in central Western Mexico. They create and sell their yarn paintings in order to support their traditional way of life and are primarily farmers.

The yarn paintings of the Huichol people tell many stories through their use of symbols including stories about their relationship with the natural world, religious beliefs, and how their culture has changed over time.

The Huichol people traditionally believe that souls or spirits exist not only in humans but also in other animals, plants, rocks, natural phenomena such as thunder, and geographical features such as mountains and rivers.

The Huichol people refer to themselves as “the healers”. They believe they keep the natural world and the Earth healthy and balanced by performing their ceremonies and rituals. Yarn paintings are a modern version of a ritual artifact in the Huichol culture. One of the ways they are working to preserve their cultural traditions and also to maintain a traditional way of life is by creating and selling elaborate yarn paintings.

Traditionally Huichol yarn paintings were made as offerings to the natural world to ensure good harvests, ask for protection and strength, and to document their religious beliefs and spiritual experiences. Yarn paintings include many important plant and animal symbols.





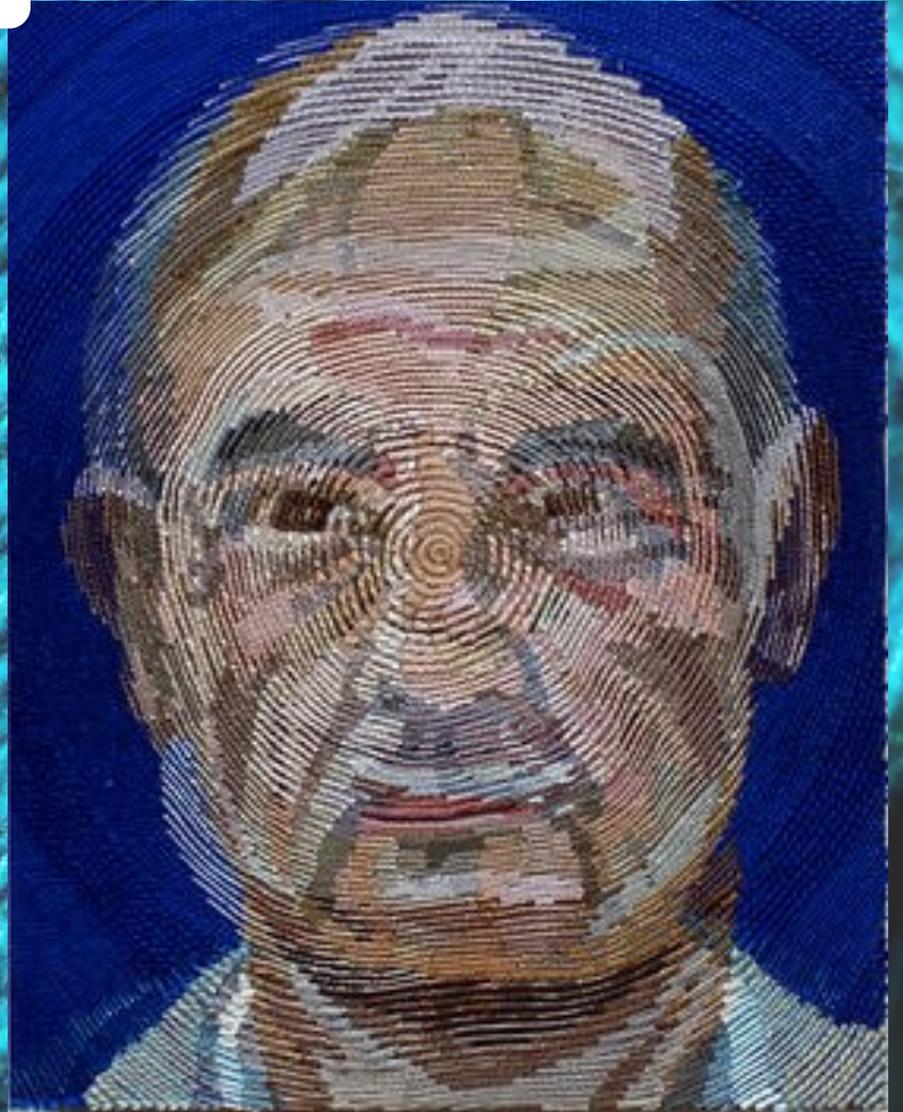
*The colourful &
intricate yarn art
of the Huichol
people.*



More Yarn painting ideas and inspiration...



You might like to create a landscape scene as this artist has done here.



Robert Foreman, *John to Doug*, 2017, Yarn painting.

Or you might like to have a go at creating a yarn portrait as this artist has done here.

More Yarn painting ideas and inspiration...



More Yarn painting ideas and inspiration...



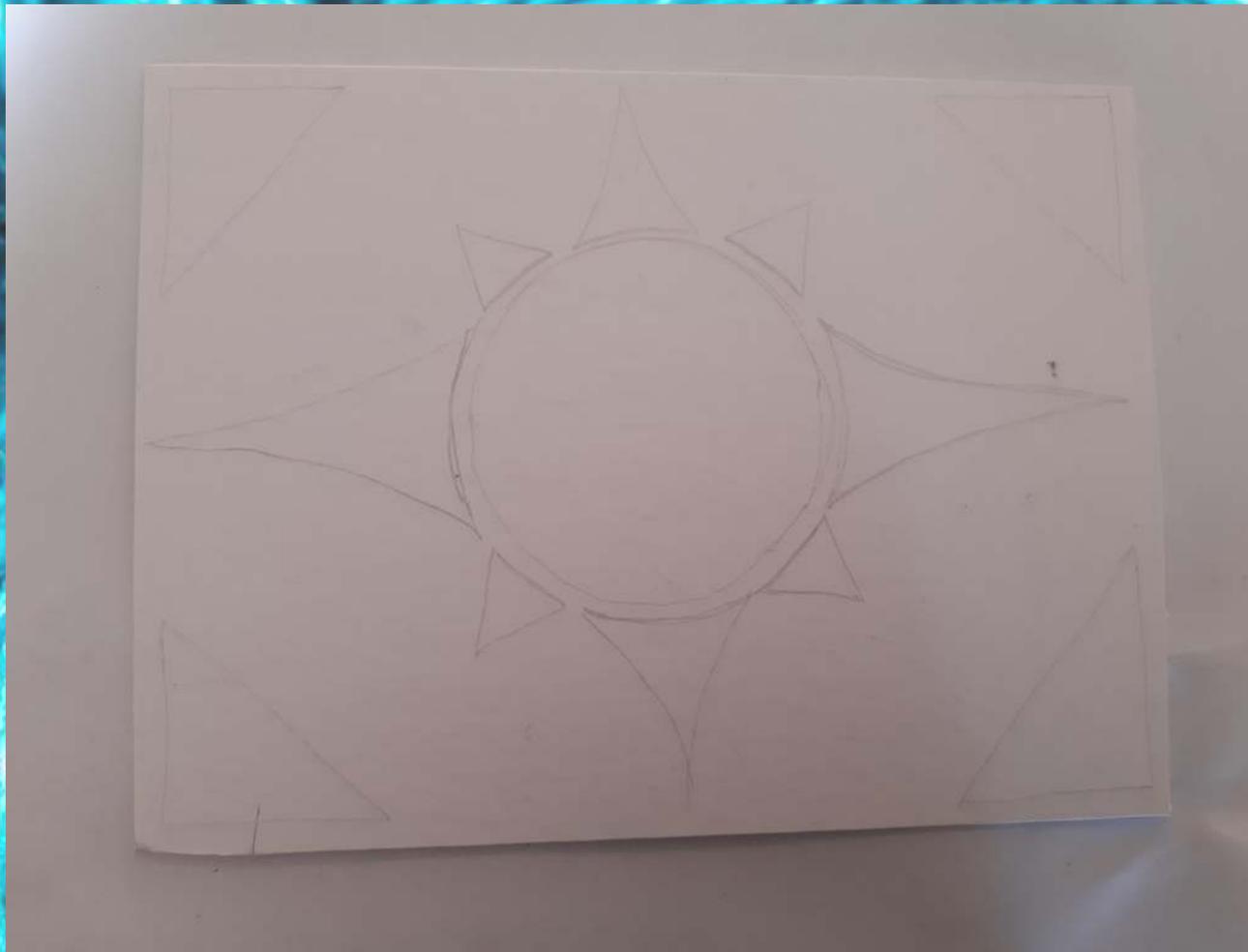
You will need:

- Pencil
- Different coloured wool/ yarn
- Good scissors
- Thick backing board/ cardboard
- PVA glue (if you have an art pack from the gallery, please return the glue bottles for future use!)
- Small paint brush
- Wood skewer or toothpick



If you have one of the art packs from the gallery please return your glue bottles from this weeks activity when you come in to collect your next art pack. Return....Refill...Reuse... every little effort counts!



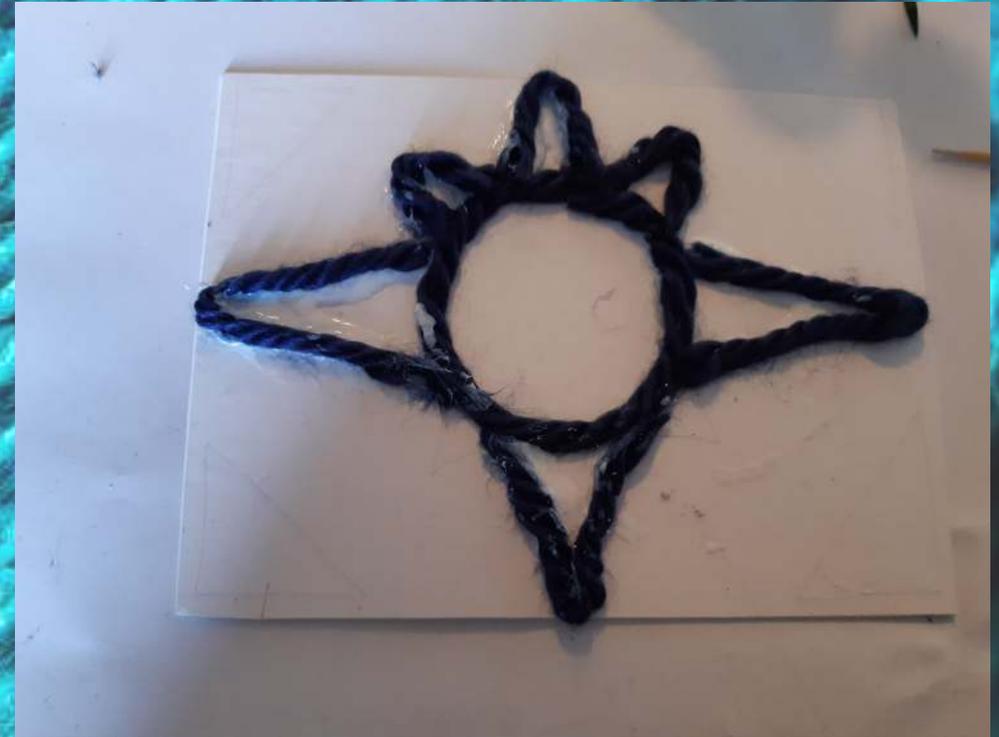


Step 1: Design.

Do a drawing on thick backing card in pencil. Keep your lines simple with no small details and make bold simple shapes.

Step 2: Outlines.

Glue down the outlines of your shapes with dark colour first. Then go around it a couple of times with colours to give a halo effect and make your shapes stand out.



You might like to put your glue into a small squeeze bottle with a thin point so you can draw your glue onto your lines as above.

Step 3: Fill in.

Fill in the rest of your page with yarn. Fill up all of your shapes and do your background last. Put down glue as you go and work in one small area at a time.



To make your shapes stand out more, go around their outlines with a contrasting colour as above.

It can get pretty messy so make sure you put down some newspaper or scrap paper under where you are working. Use the wooden skewer to help get your yarn into place and push down. It stops it sticking to your fingers!



Fill up all of the space!



My completed Winter Woolly Yarn-Scape!

Please share

your creations!

Share to:

artgallery@devonport.tas.gov.au

