

Teacher / Adult's Side (1)

Liverpool Biennial

KS3 History - Feminist Icons

The learner will conduct their own historical research into feminist icons, inspired by the works of artists Judy Chicago and Linder and the themes that they explore in their work.

Estimated time = 1 hour

Curriculum Extract:

The national curriculum for KS3 history aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Understand historical concepts such as continuity and change, cause and consequence, similarity, difference and significance, and use them to make connections, draw contrasts, analyse trends, frame historically-valid questions and create their own structured accounts, including written narratives and analyses
- Understand the methods of historical enquiry, including how evidence is used rigorously to make historical claims, and discern how and why contrasting arguments and interpretations of the past have been constructed
- Gain historical perspective by placing their growing knowledge into different contexts, understanding the connections between local, regional, national and international history; between cultural, economic, military, political, religious and social history; and between short- and long-term timescales.

Pupils should be taught about:

- Challenges for Britain, Europe and the wider world from 1901 to the present day. For example, women's suffrage.
- Social, cultural and technological change in post-war British society
- Britain's place in the world since 1945

Key Terms:

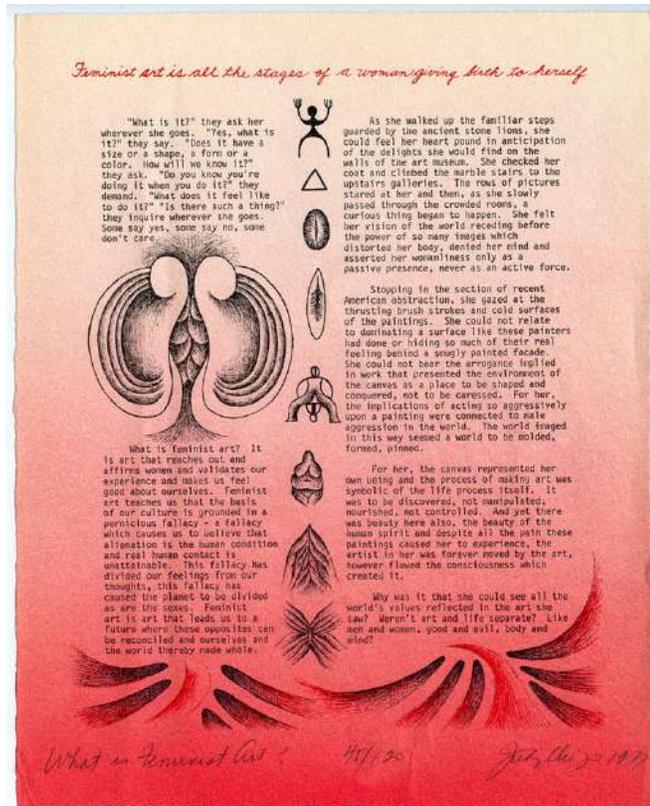
- **Feminism** - The theory of the political, economic, and social equality of the sexes, and the belief that men and women should have equal rights and opportunities.
- **Lithograph** - A picture printed using a stone or metal block on which an image has been drawn with a thick substance that attracts ink.
- **Pioneer** - A person who is one of the first people to do something.
- **Commodification** - When something is treated or considered as a commodity (a product that can be bought and sold).

Artists Names: Judy Chicago and Linder

LB2021 Project Description:

Judy Chicago's series of lithographs *Through the Flower No. 2-4* (1972), and *What is Feminist Art?* (1977), from Tate's collection are presented at Tate Liverpool. Chicago is widely regarded as a pioneer of feminist art whose work elevates her experience as a woman artist and gives space to the work of other women.

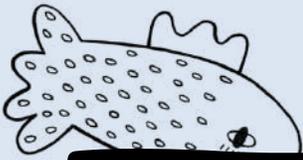
Linder presents a series of photomontage works at Tate Liverpool and a new street-level billboard commission, *Bower of Bliss* (2021), within Liverpool One. Drawing on feminist critiques around the commodification of the female body in society, Linder's photomontage works challenge contemporary and historical depictions of women in the public eye.



What is Feminist Art?, Judy Chicago (1977)



Bower of Bliss, Linder (2021)



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Activity Instructions:

Both Judy Chicago and Linder have artistic practices which focus on feminism, but what is feminism and what is feminist art?

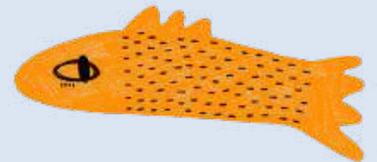
Below is a list of artists who have defined themselves or have been defined by others as feminist artists. Research the work of one or more of these artists (or a feminist artist of your choice!) and think about the following questions:

- What were their ideas surrounding feminism and how do they compare to what we think of as feminism today?
- Why were their feminist ideas so important to them and their artwork?
- How much has the position of female artists changed over the last century?
- Which factors are the most significant in the development of the feminist art movement?
- What is the impact of the feminist art movement on contemporary art made today?

You may wish to focus on one of these questions in depth, or think about all of these questions in relation to your chosen artist/s.

Material List:

- Digital device or books to conduct research from
- The curious mind of a Historian!



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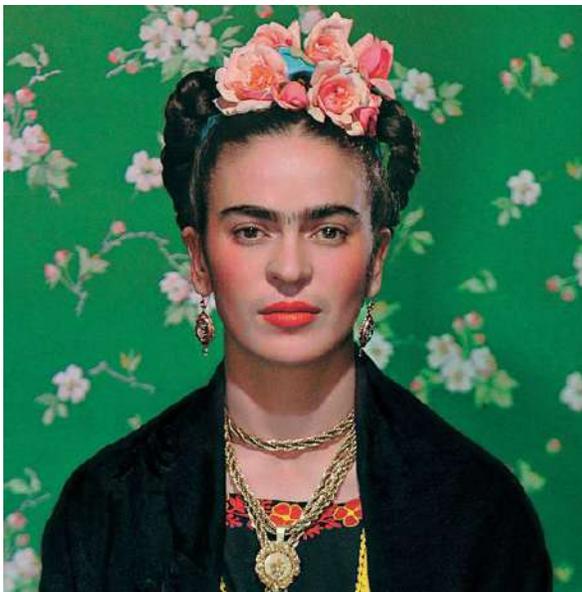
Georgia O'Keeffe
15 November 1887 - 6 March
1986

Think...

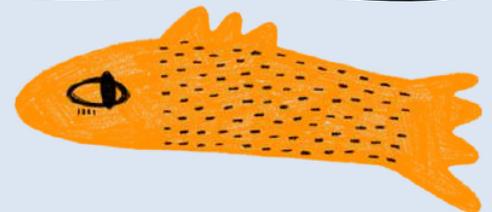
Consider the countries and time periods in which these artists lived. Which important historical events happened there in their lifetime? Do you think this affected their artwork and their ideas on feminism?



Hannah Höch
1 November 1889 - 31 May 1978



Frida Kahlo
6 July 1907 - 13 July 1954



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Think...

These artists have lived into the 21st Century. How do you think this affected their artwork? How different do you think their ideas of feminism are/were, compared to the artists above?



Louise Bourgeois
25 December 1911 - 31 May 2010



Yayoi Kusama
22 March 1929 - present



Kara Walker
26 November 1969 - present