



Harmony Hub Radio

Welcome to Harmony Hub Radio a place to listen, share, reminisce and get inspired.

www.awakeningarts.co.uk

We'd love to hear your thoughts about the show and have you be part of the Harmony Hub Magic. We are really keen to hear about a memorable, favourite song and what it means to you or to hear a recording of you reading a favourite poem. If you have anything you'd like to share or need help to share something, please get in touch with me, Kaye, on 07591157841 or by email at kaye@awakeningarts.co.uk

This week on Harmony Hub Radio, we'll be exploring the weather, what could be a better subject for us English. These are the poems I'll be reading on the show and I'd love it if you'd read along with me.

Here's a quote by Argintian poet, Jorge Louis Borges on the arts and need to read poetry out loud:

"Truly fine poetry must be read aloud. A good poem does not allow itself to be read in a low voice or silently. If we can read it silently, it is not a valid poem: a poem demands pronunciation. Poetry always remembers that it was an oral art before it was a written art. It remembers that it was first song."

Whether The Weather Be Fine by an anonymous English poet

Whether the weather be fine
Or whether the weather be not,
Whether the weather be cold
Or whether the weather be hot,
We'll weather the weather
Whatever the weather,
Whether we like it or not.

Last Night the Rain Spoke to Me by Mary Oliver

Last night
the rain
spoke to me
slowly, saying,
what joy
to come falling
out of the brisk cloud,
to be happy again
in a new way
on the earth!
That's what it said
as it dropped,
smelling of iron,
and vanished
like a dream of the ocean
into the branches
and the grass below.
Then it was over.
The sky cleared.
I was standing
under a tree.
The tree was a tree
with happy leaves,
and I was myself,
and there were stars in the sky
that were also themselves
at the moment
at which moment
my right hand
was holding my left hand
which was holding the tree
which was filled with stars
and the soft rain –
imagine! imagine!
the long and wondrous journeys
still to be ours.

RAIN - Simon Armitage

Be glad of these freshwater tears,
Each pearled droplet some salty old sea-bullet
Air-lifted out of the waves, then laundered and sieved, recast as a soft bead
and returned.
And no matter how much it strafes or sheets, it is no mean feat to catch one
raindrop clean in the mouth,
To take one drop on the tongue, tasting cloud pollen, grain of the heavens,
raw sky.
Let it teem, up here where the front of the mind distills the brunt of the world.

The Storm by Mary Oliver

Through the white orchard my little dog
romps, breaking the new snow
with wild feet.
Running here running there, excited,
hardly able to stop, he leaps, he spins
until the white snow is written upon
in large, exuberant letters,
a long sentence, expressing
the pleasures of the body in this world.
Oh, I could not have said it better

A Rainy Morning - ted looser

A young woman in a wheelchair,
wearing a black nylon poncho spattered with rain,
is pushing herself through the morning.
You have seen how pianists
sometimes bend forward to strike the keys,
then lift their hands, draw back to rest,
then lead again to strike just as the chord fades.
Such is the way this woman
strikes at the wheels, then lifts her long white fingers,
letting them float, then bends again to strike
just as the chair slows, as if into a silence.
So expertly she plays the chords
of this difficult music she has mastered,
her wet face beautiful in its concentration,
while the wind turns the pages of rain.

Art Activity

This week our theme is the weather. Here are some ideas for how you could create an image on this theme. As ever, please feel free to interpret the theme in anyway that feels right for you, these are just some ideas or starting points.



What could better symbolise freedom and flight than a caged bird flying free? You could make a simple drawing from your imagination or find an image to copy and paint, or something in between.

This painting of a murmuration of starlings by Eoin Mac Lochlainn captures the magic and beauty of birds flying in harmony over an evening sky. Could you capture something like this? Have you seen any birds flying overhead? You could draw or paint the view from your window and add some magic by painting in a murmuration of birds overhead.



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This dreamy and imaginative image shows the birds flying in the sky, some joy and hope against the darkened sky and bare trees. Perhaps you would like to try something more expressive. This is a simple enough style to try with a grey/blue background and then go over that once it's dry with black detailing with ink.



If you are feeling playful, you could try painting yourself as a bird! If you had wings what would they look like, where would you fly to? The amazing thing about painting is that we can create our own reality and bring our wildest imaginings onto the paper.