

<http://www.openartsarchive.org/open-arts-objects>

## Student handout

**Presenter: Dr Clare Taylor**

**Work: Anonymous designer, vinyl wallpaper, 1960s (collection of the presenter)**

<http://www.openartsarchive.org/resource/open-arts-object-1960s-vinyl-wallpaper>

In this film Clare looks at an object made in the 1960s, a vinyl backed wallpaper in a floral design. She explores the design and its manufacture and speculates about how it may have been intended to be used. The film also contextualises the wallpaper as part of wider trends in 1960s design, and the associated activities encourage students to explore this aspect further.

### *Before watching the film*

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1. What do you know about the 1960s?
2. What do you think the object represents?
3. How do you think it was made?
4. What function do you think the object serves?

### *After watching the film*

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1. What effects (aesthetic, social, political etc) do you think the artist/architect/filmmaker was trying to achieve in this work?
2. Has the film helped you define some of the formal elements of the object? Consider scale, subject matter, medium, and other formal elements.
3. Does it have a recognisable purpose or function? Does this relate to the time period in which it was made? This design would be very large on a domestic wall.
4. How has this film helped your understanding of 1960s design?

### *Online Activity*

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1. To help you get a sense of the wider context look up some 1960s wallpaper and textile designers and manufacturers online: such as Terence Conran/Conran Fabrics, Shirley Craven/Hull Traders, John Piper/Sandersons, Vymura, Eddie Squires/Warner's, Isobel Colquhoun/Simpson & Godlee
2. Chose an institution with wallpaper in its collections (see links below) to explore similarities and differences with this design: Whitworth Art Gallery or the Victoria & Albert Museum.

## Bibliography

Lesley Hoskins (ed) *The Papered Wall*, Thames & Hudson, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed 2005, Chapter 12: Mary Schoeser, 'Off the Shelf: Design and Consumer Trends since 1970'

Lesley Jackson, *20<sup>th</sup> Century Pattern Design: Textile and wallpaper pioneers*, Mitchell Beazley, 2001

### Resources online

You can find out more about William Morris and his work here:

<http://www.vam.ac.uk/page/w/william-morris/>

Whitworth Art Gallery wallpaper collection

<http://www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk/collection/ourcollection/wallpaper/>

Victoria & Albert Museum wallpaper collection <http://www.vam.ac.uk/page/w/wallpaper/>

Geffrye Museum of the Home: 1960s Period Room [https://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk/explore-the-geffrye/period\\_rooms/living-room-1965/](https://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk/explore-the-geffrye/period_rooms/living-room-1965/)

Design Museum, London <https://designmuseum.org/?gclid=CN6BsYyOutQCFUSeGwod-1UEmA>

### Comparative analysis

Fill out the table below, considering the following elements: date, subject matter, material, location, function, formal qualities. Use the empty boxes to comment on any other formal qualities or aspects of the works you would like to note.

Use the middle column to write down the information related to the vinyl wallpaper, and the right column for the information related to the Morris & Co 'Daisy' wallpaper,

<http://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O248431/daisy-wallpaper-morris-william/>

Works of art	<b>Anonymous designer, vinyl wallpaper, 1960s (collection of the presenter)</b>	<b>William Morris <i>The Daisy</i>, wallpaper hand printed from wood blocks</b>
date		
What is it?		
material		
Size/scale		
Subject matter		
Original location		
Composition		
Condition		

Function		