

## Week 4

# Jivya Soma Mashe 1934-2018 India

## *Warli tribal art*



This is a painting by **Jivya Soma Mashe**.

It is a good example of Warli tribal art.

The painting is centred around a tarpa dance where people join hands and dance in a circle following a musician playing a local instrument called a tarpa.

The spiral of people represents the world

**This week you will need.....**

From your Art Bag	From Home	For the extra project
Sketchbook White card Pencil Black and white paint Paint brush Cocktail stick Coloured paper Scissors Glue Berol pen	Plastic bag or newspaper to protect work-surface  Kitchen roll  Spoon or knife to get paint and glue out of pot.  Lid from a bottle or jar to mix paint in	Nothing extra needed

## About the artist.....

Jivya Some Mashe was born into the Warli tribe in western India.

His mother died when he was seven and for several years the only way he communicated was by drawing images in the dust, this gave him special status in his community.

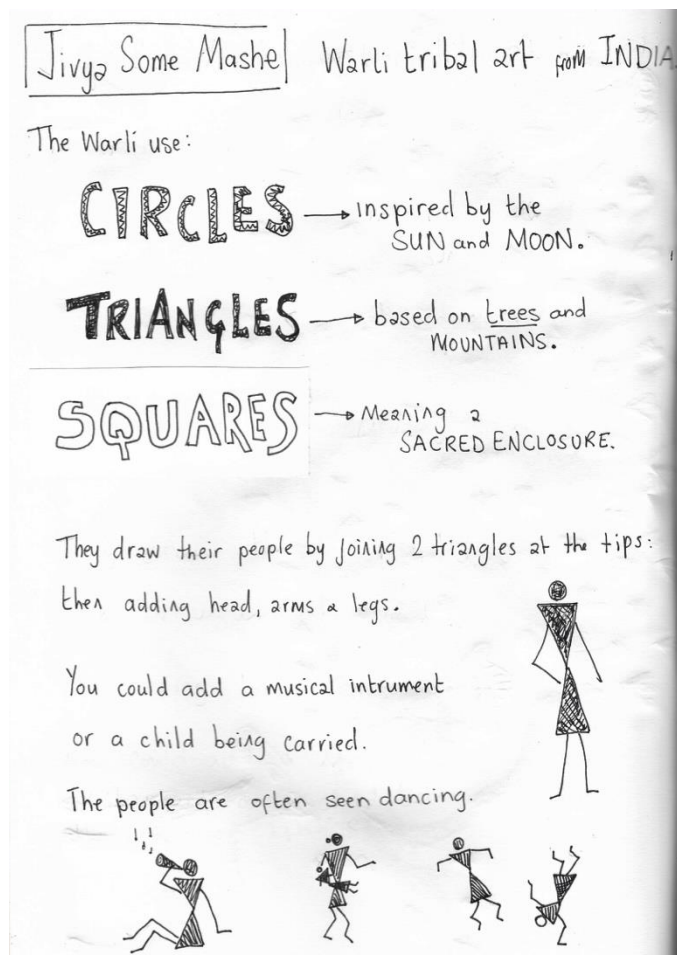
Traditionally Warli art was painted on the mud walls of the houses and was for ritual purposes.

The white paint is made from rice ground to a paste and instead of a brush the paint is applied using a bamboo stick, chewed at the end.

The paintings depict the life of the tribe and include hunting, fishing, dancing, farming, animals, plants, festivals, homes and gods.

Jivya Some Mashe was noticed for his art in the 1970's and given paper and canvas to work on, this transformed his work into his deeply sensitive paintings full of movement.

## A bit more information about the Warli style of art



The activities today will be painting, collage and drawing.

They will all be based on **Jivya Some Mashe's** paintings in the style of Warli tribal art.

Using simple geometric shapes and a few lines you are going to create exciting pictures that tell a story and are full of life and movement.

This is a quote from **Jivya Some Mashe** to inspire your work....

***"There are human beings, birds, animals, insects and so on. Everything moves, day and night, life is movement"***

## Activity 1 – Paint with a stick

Begin by painting a black background onto 2 pieces of white card, leave a border around the edge but cover the rest of the card with a smooth layer of black paint, spread the paint evenly with your brush, it should not be thick and lumpy but you shouldn't be able to see any white card showing through. Clean your brush straight away & put the lid securely on the black paint.

You will need to leave this to dry completely before you begin the next step.

You could move onto Activity 2 and come back to this later if you like.

Once the black paint is dry, put a small amount of white paint into a small container such as the lid from a milk bottle. Add about 3 or 4 drops of water, drip them in from your finger and be careful not to add too much water. Mix the paint with your cocktail stick, the paint should be thick like custard but not lumpy. Replace the lid on the white paint tub.

You are going to paint with your cocktail stick, you might want to wet the end and squash it down a bit by pressing into your tiny paint pot.



This is my example where I have tested out the technique.

I began in the centre but didn't leave enough room to fit in the legs of the dancers.

Also my paint was not watered down at all, it was too thick and difficult to apply but when I watered it down too much it was blobby and a bit see through.

The best thing to do is have a practice on one piece of card and then move on to make your picture on the second one.

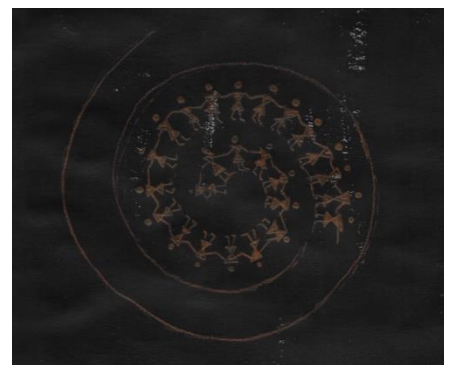
When your artwork is dry stick it onto a page in your sketchbook.

If you enjoy this technique you could try a page straight into your sketchbook.

If you are struggling with the paint, you could try using your palest colour coloured pencil.

In this example I have used a pale orange pencil and drawn a light spiral outline to fit my dancing people onto.

When you have finished with the paint, clean the lid to use as a glue pot in the next activity.



## Activity 2 – Collage

Choose 2 or 3 colours of coloured paper and cut out circles, triangles and squares.

You can draw the shapes lightly first and cut round them or cut strips of paper and snip off squares and triangles.



In your sketchbook fill a page with your cut out shapes.

You can combine the shapes to make images from the Warli art or you can experiment to make your own pictures and patterns.

Put a small amount of glue in your old bottle top then replace the lid on the glue. Use the cocktail stick to spread the glue onto the back of the shape.

You only need a tiny amount of glue, it sticks better, looks neater and dries quicker if you spread it very thinly, use the side of the stick to spread.

Add details to your collage using a pen or pencil



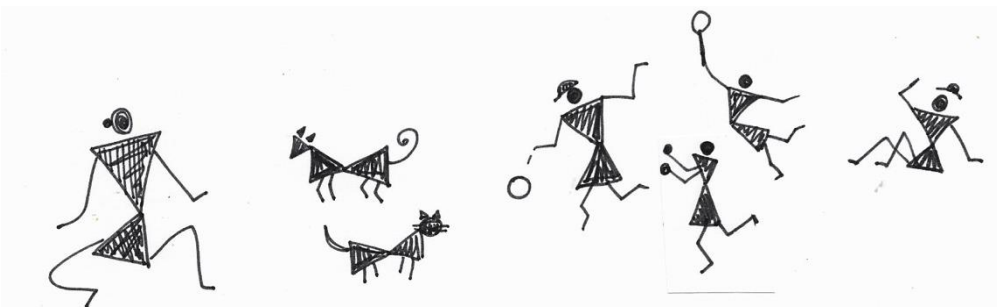
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If you are enjoying Jivya Some Mashe then you can try this **extra activity**:

Use your Berol pen to draw a busy scene that fills a page in your sketchbook.

You could draw a scene in a park or on the street, at a market or by the seaside, it could be a sporting event or a trip to the zoo, the choice is yours go wherever your imagination takes you.

This will be a black and white scene like the painting in activity 1 but this time you will be drawing black on white instead of white on black.



Try to create a feeling of movement by the way you draw the characters and how they move across the page.

I hope you enjoyed Warli Tribal Art, next week we're off to Australia.