

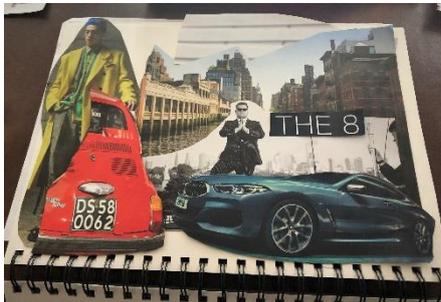


'HOLA!' St Columba's Hospice Online Art group for patients and carers started in September in response to the impact COVID restrictions had on our face to face arts programme. It runs on Monday afternoons with invitation open to both patients in the hospice and in the community. The group is facilitated by our Community Artist, Hans Clausen, hosted online via Zoom video call.

Hola! is less of an art class and more of an invitation to play, meet with others and try things out. In the spirit of the words of Picasso the focus is on discovering or rediscovering the joy of creativity, a process as much about unlearning as learning. Participants are invited to join in with simple guided activities, bring their own ideas and skills to share or simply be there and enjoy the company, importantly no previous art experience is required.

The aim of the group is to bring people together through an interest or curiosity in art as a starting point for conversation and creative adventure. Each session follows a loose theme and/or method of working but with plenty of opportunity for deviation and distraction...**sometimes the most exciting things are discovered or created by accident!**

As the group evolves we plan to include guest artist demonstrations, artist talks and virtual gallery visits. The group runs over blocks of six weeks with a slight change in theme or focus for each block. In our first six week block we have been exploring the possibilities of image making with collage and the different ways of approaching image making driven either by narrative, aesthetics, abstraction or happenstance. A few samples of works '**In the making...**' are included here.



To find out more please contact the Arts Team at St Columba's Hospice Care: email: arts@stcolumbashospice.org.uk

Hans K Clausen Community Artist