

Art from England by Clarisse Cliff



Clarice Cliff is really famous for the designs she painted on china plates, cups and teapots. She was a ceramics artist from the 20th Century. She was born on January 20th 1899 in Stoke-on-Trent which is not too far away. She started work at the age of 13 in 'The Potteries' which is the name for the area around where she lived. Clarice moved to the AJ Wilkinson's pottery factory in 1916. She was ambitious and her designs were so good that eventually she was given her own studio. It was here that she started creating her own patterns that people called 'Bizarre' wares.

In 1928 Clarice created a pattern of Crocus flowers made from individual brushstrokes, completely hand-painted in bright colours. Orders came in thick and fast and in 1930 a separate decorating department was set up to meet demand. The vast majority of Clarice's 'Art Deco' output was between 1927 and 1936. These years are commonly known, by collectors, as The 'Bizarre' years. After 'Bizarre' Clarice continued to produce many wares in her own unique style and to suit the current tastes of the nation and the various worldwide export markets.

Task:

Can you paint your own version? It might be fun to paint on a paper plate if you have one.