



旋轉中

揮灑彩色舞姿
Clare Mackie



看到 Clare 的創作，明亮的色調如魔法棒般瞬間點燃愉悅的心情，畫面到處充滿了活潑歡樂的氣氛，小動物快樂的旋轉在畫面中，讓人都不自覺的想要一起賣弄舞姿。



Clare Mackie

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Clare 出生在充滿動物及昆蟲的蘇格蘭鄉村，對於大自然的熱情也是來自於本身的生長環境，之後前往愛丁堡藝術學院就讀，並專攻插畫領域，合作過的客戶有：Chanel、IBM、Tatler、Harpers & Queen、The New Yorker、Trish McEboy、Macallan Whisky、Harvey Nichols、BBC 等等，現在正為 Country Life 雜誌創作插畫。

Clare Mackie was born and brought up in the Scottish countryside surrounded by animals and insects, and her passion for the natural

world stems from these roots. After 5 years at Edinburgh College of Art, she headed south where she carved out a successful career in illustration, working for clients as varied as Chanel, IBM, Tatler, Harpers & Queen, The New Yorker, Trish McEboy, Macallan Whisky, Harvey Nichols, BBC...etc. Among other project she currently illustrates the My Week column every week in Country Life magazine.

01	02	03
	04	

- 01. Floral_Walk
- 02. Loving_Bees
- 03. Logo
- 04. Auction_House_Party

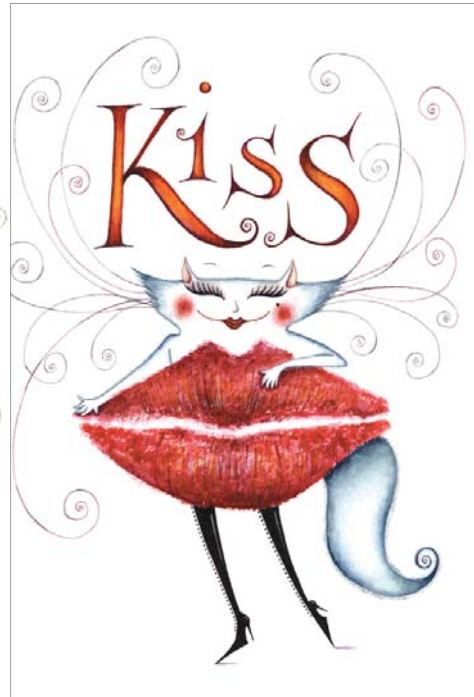
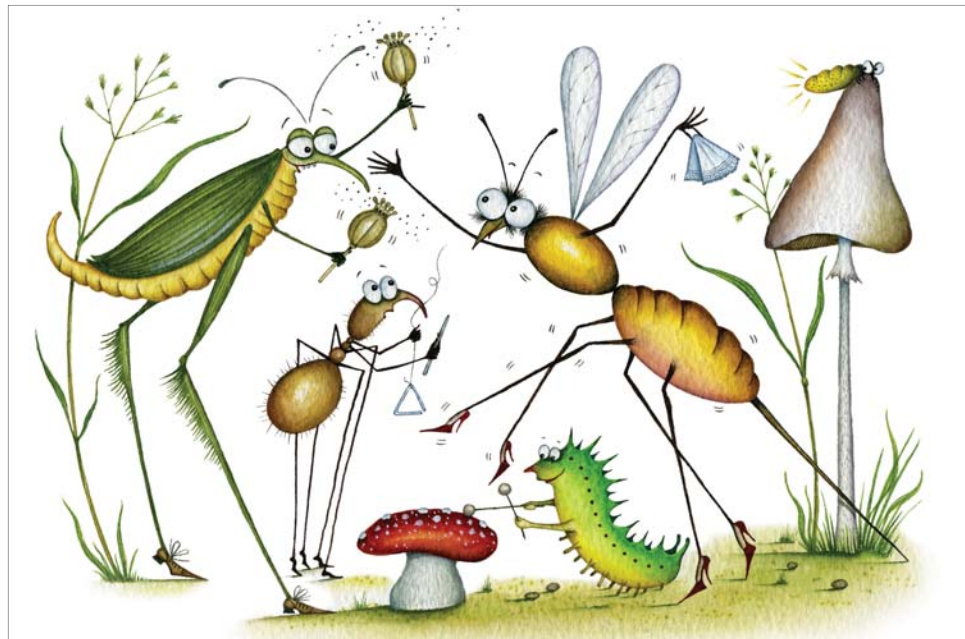
♥ 從小追尋藝術境界

Clare 出生在蘇格蘭東海岸，母親是個藝術家兼園丁，且喜歡在睡前閱讀可怕的俄羅斯童話故事給他聽，而家人也不反對 Clare 在藝術領域中鑽研，尤其在小的時候，家人會買許多兒童書籍給小孩子閱讀，而這些都能啟發 Clare 的想像力，而那聰明又古怪的阿姨總是能讓小孩子對他手工創作的作品著迷。曾經 Clare 在上課時太愛講話，導致導師丟給他一本 Edward Lear 的插畫書給他，也因此現在的創作也深受 Edward Lear 的影響，因為他懂得書中打油詩和插畫的含意，以及明白書中創作的本質為何，不過有時候一個人的創作風格倒還蠻難定義的呢。

dpi : Would you talk about your background? Do you think it influences your creating style? Moreover, how do you define your creating style?

Clare : I was brought up on a farm on the East Coast of Scotland with very strong and influential characters in my family. Guess I could get overwhelmed by them and withdrew into my own world and especially nature. My mother is an artist and gardener and nurtured my creative side from an early age, and thankfully there were no objections to me wanting to pursue art as a career. From a tender age she would read us old Russian Fairy Tales before bed which could be quite scary(!), would draw weird and wonderful characters with extraordinary names that caused delight and awe, and buy me and my siblings children's books that would stimulate our imaginations. Another influence was my Great Aunt Maisie, a deeply eccentric and bright woman who enchanted us all with her homemade creations – she had a rare and unrecognized talent.

My turning point was when an exasperated tutor at Art School threw Edward Lear's Book of Nonsense at me in a bid to stop me chattering. The style of work that I have now immediately manifested upon illustrating his limericks and wistful tales, but it has of course matured since then but the essence of the initial inspiration of that book (which was also a childhood favourite) has stayed with me, for which I'm truly grateful as it can be so difficult to find ones' own style.



♥ 用畫作和愛擁抱人群

Clare 喜歡使用水彩和無酸紙作畫，現在在倫敦一間刷具店工作，並且喜歡用店內生產的刷子在畫作上作畫且增添細節。作品表現出明亮歡樂的氛圍且流露出自由之意，如果觀眾看這些畫作能露出笑容，他會非常的開心。而“Love”系列的畫作，Clare 表示“愛”有很多種樣貌，而他想要表現出“愛”裡面的羞澀、溫柔、歡鬧、親密、淘氣和愉悅的氣息。愛是一切，而且是一種自我的對立面，愛會帶來傷害及毀滅，但卻也能讓人有勇氣去愛及寬恕他人，而純潔的愛能無條件的付出且包容許多事物。

dpi : What kind of material, tool and technique do you use for your creation?

Clare : I work in watercolour on acid-free medium-grained paper and work with fairly small brushes from a beautiful shop in London (so worth a visit and just by the British Museum) called L. Cornelissen & Son. The brushes are their own make and keep their point extremely well, which helps a lot with the detail.

dpi : What kind of the creating element do you like creating in your artwork and why?

Clare : Guess I want to convey a feeling of lightness and joy, and a sense of gentleness and freedom. If there's a quiet smile inside when you look at my work then I'd feel so happy.

dpi : Please talk about the “Love” collection. What's message do you want to convey to the readers? And how do you define “Love”?

Clare : Love comes in so many guises and here I wanted

to express shy tenderness, hilarity, sexiness, togetherness, naughtiness and joy. Guess to me love is everything – it's the opposite of the ego which is the cause of so much harm and destruction in the world. Love of oneself opens the door to loving others and I believe in doing our best with an open heart and with forgiveness (again of ourselves as well as others). Pure love is total release and acceptance on all levels.

01	05 06 07	01. Easter_Chicks
02	08	02. Ugly_Bug_Ball
03 04		03. Loving_Mother
		04. Easter_Eggs
		05. Surprise_Gift
		06. Happy_Couple
		07. Turtle_Doves
		08. Kiss

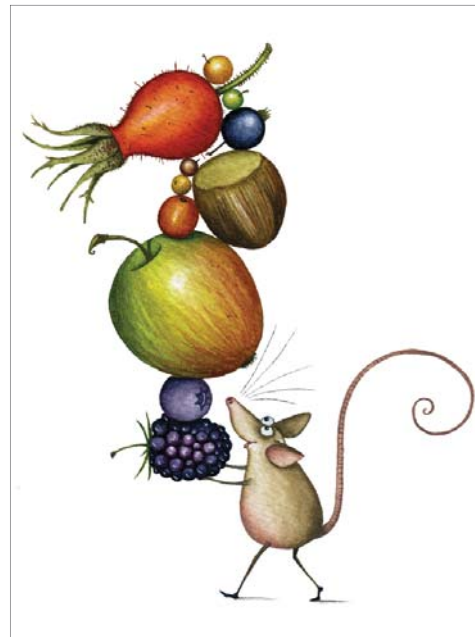
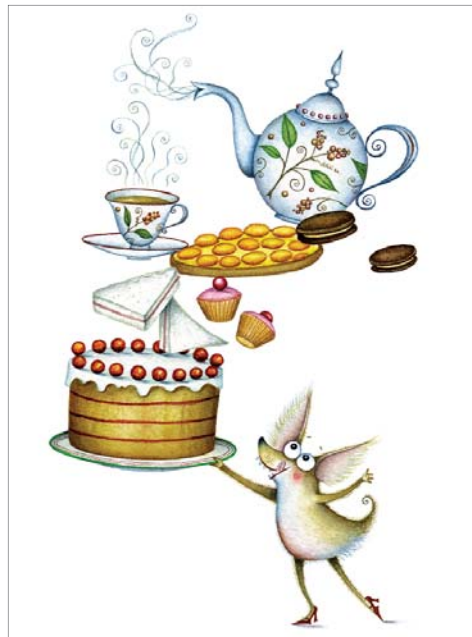
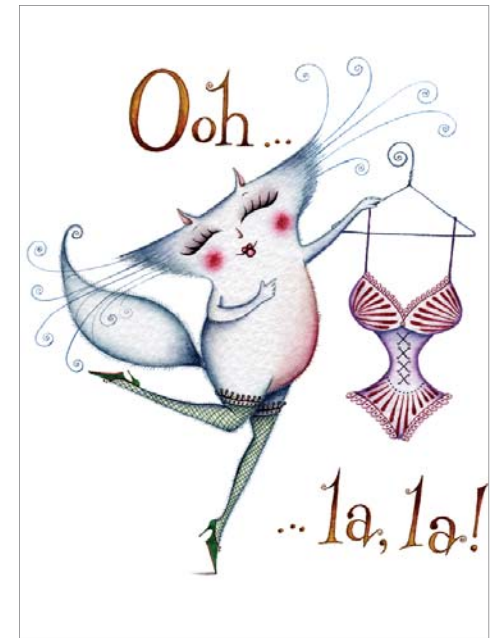
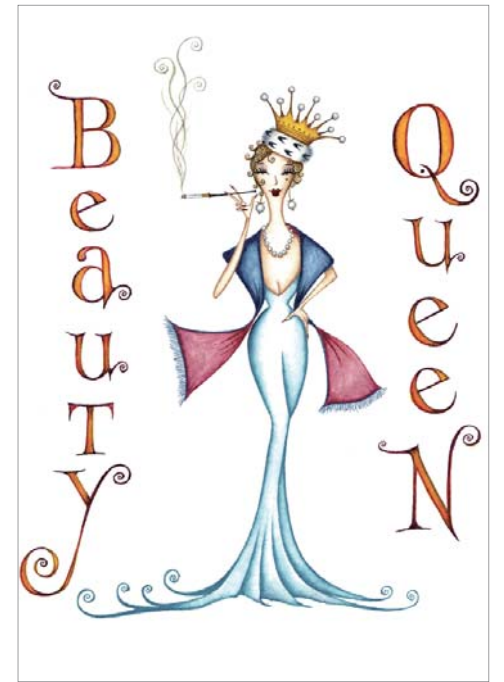
♥ 直覺性的創作理念

他最近已經很少創作“People”系列，因為現在很多客戶都要求以動物為創作主題；此畫作有兩種形式，一種是適合女性雜誌的魅力女孩，或是逗趣的古怪主角，Clare 也觀察人們並想像屬於這些人的場景，他曾經在英國布萊頓的一間下午茶店享用餐點，之後便把這樣的場景畫進畫中，而有個看似親切的女人正襟危坐的吃著餐點，Clare 想過去跟他聊聊並了解這女人的背景。其實，人們都有自己的歷史並造就現在該有的樣子，而不同的選擇也會改變人生。關於自己的創作概念，他說自己完全憑直覺創作，並在畫作上達到一個平衡性，不過上色卻是個困難的部分，因為必須用顏色來平衡整幅畫，有時候選色也真需要經過天人交戰一番呢。

dpi : When you draw “People” collection, do you have any specific people that you want to draw? What’s your design conception?

Clare : Good question as I am painting people less and less these days as am commissioned more for my animals. The people I do paint however seem to fall into two camps – the glamorous girls which women’s magazines favour, and the more quirky characters which I really enjoy as they amuse me more. We all come in so many shapes and sizes and I LOVE people-watching and making up scenarios around those I see. Was in a tearoom here in Brighton the other day and one of the diners there is definitely going to appear on paper! A larger than life lady on all levels with such a determined manner of eating - even her posture was solid and determined, yet kindly too. Think I’d have liked her and wanted to chat to her about her history – it fascinates me how we all come to be who we are and how we keep evolving and changing due to life circumstances. Guess it’s always our choice as to whether we shrink or grow, fight or go with the flow.

As an instinctive painter and designer I like things to balance and it’s often not the composition (which seems to evolve naturally and without thinking quite often) but the choice of colours that is the difficult part. Sometimes I have a struggle to get that colour balance just right and those occasional battles can, strangely enough, get really tiring.



♥ 開發另一個創作領域

每當替童書繪畫時，Clare 會先讀過故事內容，再將文字轉換成視覺影像並用自己的繪畫風格呈現，而且盡量在創作時還能保有原有的故事精神，幸運的是，他總是能馬上構想出圖畫的輪廓，並快速畫在紙上進而完成作品。最近 Clare 也著手設計手巾和靠枕並設計了 40 個草圖，他設計了一個白色天鵝絨材質加上紅色及小絨毛球裝飾的靠枕，剛開始廠商送來的樣品也曾因為和設計草稿不同而被退票，經過不斷的溝通後，才有最後的成品，他說這是他新嘗試的領域，而且這個靠枕也為家裡增添裝飾，他已經迫不及待得想趕快看實體產品了。

dpi : When you draw the illustrations for the book, will you read the article first? And how do you start the creating process?

Clare : Always – I find it very important to get the essence of

what someone is saying and then interpret that visually with the occasional twist that is my style and way of thinking. I hope I respect what the writer has created too. Again I feel very lucky here as while I’m reading an image or feeling will drop into my head which I’ll draw out quickly and j-peg it through to the art director I’m working with. They can usually see past my rough sketch and I go straight to finished artwork from there. It seems to work 99% of the time.

dpi : Is there any new project on-going now? Would you share that and the design conception with us?

Clare : I’ve just signed with a company in the States called Peking Handicraft Inc who produce fabric products and they’re starting me off with Seasonal Guest Towels and Cushions. The contract was signed last week and we’ve come up with about 40 designs already (mainly from my back catalogue of images) that will hopefully be translated into product later this year. It’s been

a fun collaboration so far and it’s amazing to see how they’ve translated my artwork into embroidered guest towels, Christmas Stockings, Cushions and Tree Skirts.

Peace on Earth (on the opposite page) is now a cushion with the image embroidered on white velvet and a pom-pom trim. Am bowled over by the quality of the work and it’s been hard to be objective with some of the samples to comment upon. They’ve welcomed feedback however and together I hope we’ve come up with many joyous seasonal additions to the home! dpi

01	05	06
02	03	04
07		

01. Peace_on_Earth
02. Happy_Toast
03. Greedy_Tea
04. Hedgerow_Feast
05. Tea_and_Cakes
06. Beauty_Queen
07. Ooh_la_la!