

## National goes on tour

With £60,000 of prizes, the National Open Art Competition returns this month. A free exhibition of shortlisted works takes place at London's Royal College of Art from 25 October to 7 November before touring to the Minerva Theatre, Chichester (14-30 November) and Pallant House Gallery, Chichester (3-15 December). [www.thenationalopenartcompetition.com](http://www.thenationalopenartcompetition.com)



## TATE JOINS KLEE CLUB

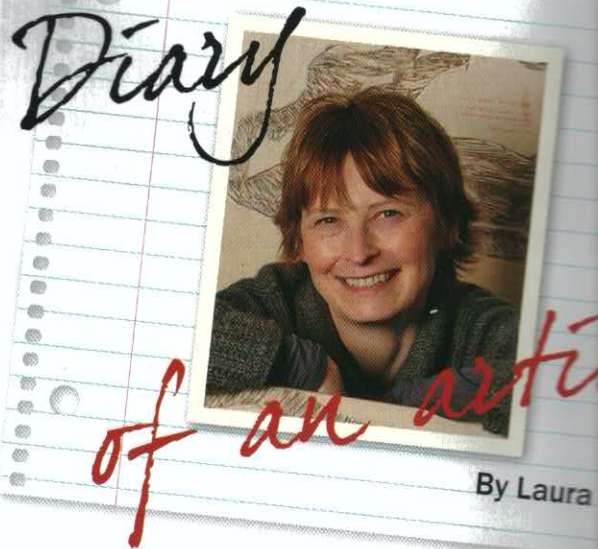
With his rich patchworks of colour and strong abstract designs, Swiss modernist Paul Klee has long been a favourite in terms of print sales. However, there hasn't been a major UK exhibition of his work since 2002, something that Tate Modern is set to change this autumn with the opening of *Making Visible*.

"The exhibition will challenge Klee's reputation as a solitary dreamer, revealing the innovation and rigour with which Klee created his work and presented it to the public," reveals curator Matthew Gale.

*The EY Exhibition - Paul Klee: Making Visible* runs from 16 October to 9 March 2014 at Tate Modern, London SE1. [www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

### 14 NOVEMBER AN EYE FOR ART

Vanessa Gardiner's *Cliff Wall 19 2013*, right, is among the works featured in this year's *ING Discerning Eye* exhibition. Six selectors, including Stephen Farthing RA and critic Estelle Lovatt, curate displays. It runs until 24 November at London's Mall Galleries.



By Laura

## THE CONFIDENCE TRI

I am about to head off to Japan for an art residency so I'm currently summoning confidence to spend a month living and learning with strangers. I'm not a naturally confident person, but giving the impression of confidence is a skill all artists should learn.

Whatever your level of engagement with art, you will at some point need to deal with strangers: be they clients, gallery staff or even your own supporters. And whatever the circumstances, every encounter is important; we all have a reputation to build.

The first thing to realise is that your 'personality' as an artist is not the same as the real you. This is where you can help enormously when you encounter difficult situations or people. Save all your worries, fears and insecurities for your friends or family; the public doesn't want to hear it. More importantly, they don't want you to ask them to boost your confidence. They expect to hear you apologise for your prices. They want you to be a calm, approachable and friendly

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artist, confident in his or her work and its value. We are selling something inspirational, whether art, education, and

sale happens best in a friendly, positive and confident atmosphere that is up to you to generate.

I made a resolution ages ago never to justify myself to whine and never to ask for reassurance when in 'artist mode'. Maintaining this does become easier over time and do remember, once the sales folk have gone, you can let it all out with a loved one over tea. In the meantime, smile, relax and allow people to enjoy you and your work: they'll be enjoying you and you'll be gaining that all-important reputation for your great personality and great artwork.

[www.lauraboswell.co.uk](http://www.lauraboswell.co.uk)

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