



**Dame Elisabeth Frink (1930–1993)**  
*A horse*, 1977  
 Pencil and brown wash

The Royal Collection © 2005, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

The work is outstanding because of its simplicity, strong outlines on the lower part of the horse, and the brown wash over the whole body that creates an amazing natural pose as well as a skin-like texture. The purity of brown is reminiscent of classical Chinese art.

Dame Elisabeth Frink was a keen equestrian and this work is one of an extensive horse series.

## ARTIST BIOGRAPHY

One of Britain's leading and most celebrated artists, she was primarily a sculptor who produced powerful sculptures with rough surfaces as a counterpoint to their simplicity of form. Her printmaking and drawing, of which she was extremely prolific and enthusiastic, was often more delicate.

Frink is best known for her depictions of animals, birds of prey, illustrations for books, and powerful portraits of men with extended jaw lines and strong features. The strength and ability that Frink shows in these media underlines her place alongside the twentieth century's great artists.

## STUDENT FOCUS QUESTIONS

- How does this drawing differ from the works by Leonardo da Vinci?
- To what effect has Frink used a wash finish in this work?
- What effect does the selective absence of colour and background have on the artwork?

## SUGGESTED RESOURCES

<http://www.delaceyfineart.co.uk/frink%20bio.htm>

<http://www.citywindsor.ca/000356.asp?artist=frink>

<http://www.wolman-prints.com/pages/artistbiog/all/f/320.html>