

Artist:

Ruth Burgess



Moon, 1989, **Woodcut** Edition 1/10,
coloured ink, paper, 80 x 66cm

Information from Ruth Burgess

*Light in the forest is a long standing theme of my work, specifically the trees in the bush beyond my house. I see the light illuminating the forest, leaves, trunks, birds, canopies and silhouettes, as the sky changes its light through the seasons and times of day. As the printmaking artist carves from black to white, it represents a spiritual symbolism of **dark to light**, often observed in the history of the medium, which appeals to me as an artist. "Moon" the large multi block woodcut is a central piece in my work as a woodcut artist, printed on Japanese paper with a tissue layer.*

Study

Research the traditional **woodcut** printing techniques of China and Japan.

Making

Take inspiration from a natural environment familiar to you.

Find sticks of various thickness and position yourself looking upwards. Select one stick, dip the end into Indian ink and begin recording the dark shapes and silhouettes in the tree canopy above on a light coloured piece of paper.

Once dry start a second layer focussed on recording the play of **light and dark** upon the ground around you using white paint, ink or pastel. Layer with layers of tissue paper to continue the drawing capturing the changing light at a different time of day.