PRAISE FOR



'Encouraging children to be creative is so important, and Joe is right – ART is everywhere (and in this book)!' LIZ PICHON



'A life-affirming and inspiring book that I wish
I'd stumbled across in my formative years.'
RUSSELL TOVEY



'Inspiring! Made me want to dig my old paints out and get creative.' CHARLIE HIGSON



'A marvellous book brimming with curiosity and imagination.' DERMOT O'LEARY



'Imagination I fear is under threat in our young people. This book – Art Is Everywhere – is a brilliant springboard for young minds who are uncertain about what art is.' SALLY GARDNER



'What a timely publication this is. We Brits too often forget to celebrate one of our greatest exports – creativity. But with a fun and engaging tone, Joe has an uncanny knack of speaking directly to the middle grade reader and you can feel his excitement as he reminds them how much of the artistic world is at their fingertips. A cheeky little gem.'

BEN BAILEY SMITH







illustrated by,
ELLIE HAWES

uclanpublishing



Talk to a trusted grown-up before you search for art of any kind online. This includes videos on YouTube, songs on Spotify, paintings on Google or films that have a rating that is for people older than you are.



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To my darling Sam, for everything

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Hello!



Dear Reader,

Hi, I'm, Joe! I wrote this book you're about to read and, well, I wanted to introduce myself.

From a young age I have loved lots of different forms of *art*, such as drawing, colouring, writing, poetry, music, film, TV. Now, I want to share with you how *joyful* and *inspiring* art can be.

I've been a *drummer* since I was nine years old.

When I was eleven I joined my first band, and since then I have always played in one. I've toured the UK on many occasions as a drummer, and even in America too! (More on that later . . .)

I was very lucky to grow up around **books** and lots of other art, because my parents LOVE reading, and my dad is also a **painter**. We had several of his paintings on the walls of our



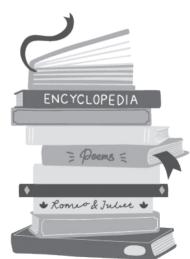
house, and after
I left home, he
turned my old
bedroom into
an art studio.

Whenever I go
home to visit,
I get to see all of
his new creations,

and what's extra awesome is they're being created in my old room, the place where I used to make art of my own with my drums.

Growing up around my dad's art made me appreciate it from an early age, and I have since become a small-time collector of modern art.

Similarly with books, being read to by my mum and growing up around a little *library* of my own made me a voracious reader and books are now part of my job! As well as being an author,



I do other bookish work like hosting events with other authors, judging national story prizes, and I have a podcast about books too.

I still absolutely luuuuuuurve watching films and TV (who doesn't?) and I



have a huge passion for radio, which is, in my opinion, also a form of art.

I studied *radio production* at university, so was constantly recording shows in studios, editing and mixing features and documentaries, and coming up with new creative ideas. I'm now

a radio producer, so you could say I have built a *career* from one of my favourite artforms.

All in all, I like to keep my mind busy with creative stuff, whether I am creating it myself or enjoying someone else's creations. I really hope that by the time you've finished my book, you might want to do the same. ©

Happy reading!

Joe x



What is art?



That's a big question — probably too big to start with, actually. Let's try this instead . . .



What do YOU think art is?

I used to think 'art' referred to **drawings** and **paintings** and nothing else. Art was something that hung on the walls of galleries and museums, I thought.







Well, some art *does* hang on the wall of galleries and museums – and drawings and paintings are certainly art – but that little word, those three letters:





Now when I think of *art*, I think of music, books, films, dance, poetry, comedy, fashion, photography, TV and so many other things.







