



King's Gardens, Southport

# ART IN KING'S GARDENS



## Fortunio Matania

Fortunino Matania is an artist from Italy. He made artwork for trains and train stations in Britain, usually in the form of posters. He did this so that people would visit seaside towns such as Southport, in the days before airplanes made it easier for people to travel abroad. You can see his artwork in the gallery in the The Atkinson in Southport.

**Imagine you are Fortunino... Design a railway poster to attract visitors to Southport and King's Gardens.**

## Venetian Nights

Before World War 2, visitors to King's Gardens may have thought they had accidentally stumbled into Venice during special evenings billed as 'Venetian Nights'. The park's beautiful Venetian Bridge was decked with fairy lights, gondolas sailed on the lake and music filled the air with everyone dressing the part in Venetian masks. One of Fortunino Matania's most famous artworks is Venetian Nights on Marine Lake, pictured here.



## Design your own Venetian Mask



# Postcards

Postcards were very popular in the Victorian era. Britain's first postcard was sent in 1867. In 1902 Britain was the first country to divide the back of the postcard in two, giving space for a message and address. Picture postcards become so popular that everyone wrote and shared them. After World War 1, more and more people thought of seaside towns when they thought of postcards, which were by far the most popular way for people to write home from their holiday.



# Design your own postcard

Who are you sending your postcard to?  
Make sure you write a message and address!

