

THINK: STUDENT WORKSHEET FOR

Hatched

National Graduate Show

2022



Be inspired by the best up-and-coming artists recently graduated from art schools across Australia. Held annually at **PICA** (Perth Institute of Contemporary Arts), *Hatched* is the only national graduate exhibition in the country, and awards the largest prize for an emerging artist in Australia.

This worksheet for students explores the ideas, techniques, and materials that the next wave of contemporary artists in Australia are experimenting with. There are four sections:

- Materials and process
- Belonging and migrant identity
- Colonisation and truth-telling
- Personal response and interpretation

Find out more about *Hatched 2022* with the free online learning resources below.

Read: Exhibition catalogue

Make: Activities inspired by the exhibition

Think: Educator resources

MATERIAL AND PROCESS

Artists often use found objects and materials in surprising or unique ways to tell a story. This involves making art objects that are abstract and ambiguous, rather than representational like traditional sculpture. Artists use found objects and materials for several reasons, such as:

- How they visually appear –their form
- How they are used – their function
- How they relate to a specific situation or time
- How they relate to the artist’s personal history
- How they relate to art history

‘Materiality’ is a description of art which gains its meaning from the materials used to make it. Different processes can be used by artists to explore how materials respond to their actions as well as physical forces such as gravity.

Erin Hallyburton, Georgia Gregory, Sasha Hunt, and Phoebe Willis have experimented with materials to represent an issue or comment on society.

What materials have these artists used?

What processes or actions have they used to experiment with these materials?

How have these materials or processes been used to tell a story? Describe the issues that are represented.

COLONISATION AND TRUTH-TELLING

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are the first peoples of Australia. There are many different First Nations groups in Australia with their own culture, language, beliefs, and practices. They are the world's oldest surviving cultures and led sustainable ways of life adapted to their local area for thousands of years before colonisation by the British.

The Black Lives Matter movement put a spotlight on the long history of violence and injustice towards Indigenous peoples in colonised nations like Australia –fueling a process of truth-telling about the past. The way the past is officially remembered is based on the perspectives of dominant groups and overlooks people of colour, women, and migrants.

We can re-examine the past by exploring archives. Archives are collections of historical documents, records or artefacts which tell a story about places, institutions, or people. Families often have their own archive of mementos and prized possessions. Many people have criticised archives for being incomplete, inaccurate, and far removed from the 'truth.'

Ilona McGuire, Morgan Hogg, Kyra Mancktelow, and Dylan Sarra explore First Nations histories and cultural identities. They tell powerful stories about connections to Country/Place and the effects of colonisation.

How have these artists used archives in their artwork?

What is colonisation?

How does their artwork deal with colonisation?

BELONGING AND MIGRANT IDENTITY

Settling in a new country is not easy. Each immigrant has their own story to tell about why and how they started a new life in an unfamiliar place. It can be difficult for migrant families to remain connected to their previous culture, beliefs and ways of life while adapting to their new environment. They must move between two (or sometimes more) cultures and identities.

The idea of 'home' can be unclear for diaspora communities of people living outside their country of origin. It can be confusing when things that were once familiar feel distant and foreign, and upsetting when people feel like they do not belong in the place they call home.

Remy Faint, Shaye Duong, Nazerul Ben-Dzulkefli, and Jacquie Meng comment on cultural identity, belonging and difference by exploring their ancestry and its symbols, rituals, and beliefs.

How have these artists used materials or symbols to comment on cultural identity?

What is a diaspora?

How does their artwork explore ideas of 'belonging' or 'home'?

PERSONAL RESPONSE AND INTERPRETATION

Select one artwork in *Hatched* to discuss which you had a personal response to.

Artist name: _____

Title: _____

What you can see, hear, smell or touch (if the work is interactive)? Think about materials, colour, texture, form, scale, odour, light, volume, tone, speed, repetition, variation, text, or symbols.

What does the artwork remind you of? How did it make you feel?

What ideas is the artist exploring? Are these ideas important or relevant to you?

What do you know about the artist's identity and life experiences? How is this different to your background?

What audience do you think the artist had in mind for this artwork? Did they make it for someone like you?

How has the artist been influenced by their surroundings, context, or world events? Do these things impact you?

How does your identity and context influence the way you interpret this artwork?

What outcome was artist trying to achieve? What is the purpose of the artwork?
