



TARRAWARRA  
MUSEUM  
OF ART

*Hilarie Mais*, installation view, TarraWarra Museum of Art, 2018  
Exhibition organised and toured by the Museum of Contemporary Art  
Australia, supported by Red Energy  
Photo: Andrew Curtis © the artist

# Education Resource

## VCE Art: Introducing the Analytical Frameworks

*Hilarie Mais*

Co-curated by Blair French and Manya Sellers

TarraWarra Museum of Art

24 February – 29 April, 2018

This education resource is intended to be used as a starting point for teachers and students and addresses the cross study specifications for VCE Art Unit 1-4 Introducing the Analytical Frameworks, and VCE Art Unit 4 Discussing Art.

The following Analytical frameworks can be used for interpreting art.

- > The **Structural Framework** is used to analyse how the style, symbolism and structural elements of artworks contribute to the meanings and messages conveyed.
- > The **Personal Framework** is used to shed light on how artworks can reflect an artist's personal feelings, thinking and life circumstances and how the viewer's interpretations are influenced by their own life experiences.
- > The **Cultural Framework** is used to identify the influence an artwork of the context of time and place in which it was made.
- > The **Contemporary Framework** is used to interpret how contemporary ideas and issues influences the making, interpretation and analysis of artworks from both the past and the present.



Museum of  
Contemporary  
Art Australia



Exhibition organised and toured by the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia,  
supported by Red Energy

Applying the **Structural Framework**

Select an artwork in the exhibition *Hilarie Mais*.

What materials and techniques has the artist used? How have they been applied?

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Select one art element used in the artwork and make a list of as many words as you can to describe it.

For example you may select the art element of colour.

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How would you describe the style of the work? For example, is it abstract, realistic, expressionistic...etc?

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What are the two most important elements that Hilarie Mais uses in her artwork and explain why you think so?

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Applying the **Personal Framework**

Do you think there are any metaphors embedded in Hilarie Mais work? Explain your thinking.

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Research this artwork to find out more about the artist's interests. How are these interests reflected in the artwork?

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Research where the artist was when she made these artworks. Do you think Hilarie Mais's own personal circumstances at the time are reflected in these works?

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How has your understanding of Hilarie Mais's artwork changed by the research you have done and the knowledge you have gained?

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How was the artwork reviewed or critiqued during the time in which it was made? Was the work considered challenging or innovative?

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Do you think the selection of materials and the techniques Hilarie Mais has used are successful? Explain.

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What is your cultural background? How does your cultural background influence how you interpret the artwork?

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Applying the **Contemporary Framework**

Are there any contemporary art ideas and issues that challenge our understanding of the artwork?

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List any other factors that you can identify which may have an impact on our interpretation. For example do you think the advent of social media has had an impact on the way we view and interpret art?

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List any other factors that you can identify which may have an impact on our interpretation.

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Sketch or draw the artwork in the space provided.

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