



TARRAWARRA
MUSEUM
OF ART

Hiwa K, *Pre-Image (Blind as the Mother Tongue)* 2017
installation view, TarraWarra International 2019:
The Tangible Trace
TarraWarra Museum of Art, 2019
Photo: Andrew Curtis
Courtesy of the artist and KOW, Berlin

VCE Art: Introducing the Analytical Frameworks

TarraWarra International 2019: *The Tangible Trace*

Curated by Victoria Lynn
TarraWarra Museum of Art
8 June – 1 September, 2019

This education resource is intended to be used as a starting point for teachers and students. It addresses the cross-study specifications for VCE Art Units 1-4 Introducing the Analytical Frameworks, and VCE Art Unit 4 Area of Study 1: 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 influence the making, interpretation and analysis of artworks from both the past and the present.

Applying the Structural Framework

Select an artwork by one of the artists in the TarraWarra International 2019: *The Tangible Trace*. Identify two of the most important art elements that the artist uses in their artwork.

How do these elements contribute to the meaning of the work?

What art principles are most prominent in the work? State the reasons why you think this.

What materials, techniques and processes have been used to make this work? How is the interpretation of the artwork shaped by the materials, technical skills and processes used by the artist? Is this due to the inherent qualities of the materials or to their application by the artist?

What is the distinctive style of the artwork and how does it contribute to meaning/s of the artwork? How does the work relate to the other works in a similar style or from the same philosophical, historical or cultural context?

Applying the Personal Framework

How does the artwork work make you feel? What do you like or dislike about the work?

What do you think the title of the work means? Investigate the meaning of the title.

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

Research the artist. What relationship does the artwork have to the artist's life experiences? What visual evidence supports this reading? Has the artist used a specific practice in creating the artwork that reflects their personal philosophy and ideas?

How has your understanding of the work changed by the research you have done and the knowledge you have gained?

How does the experience and background of the viewer affect the interpretation of the artwork?

Applying the Cultural Framework

Consider the year that the artwork was made. What were some of the key ideas and issues in the artworld during the time that this artwork was created?

What were some of the key events happening in the world that may have inspired or influenced the making of the artwork?

Is the artist's practice influenced by factors that are currently happening in relation to religion, economics or politics? Or are they influenced by things that have happened in the past? How can you tell?

How might the meaning of the artwork change if it was presented in a different cultural context?

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

Applying the Contemporary Framework

What are the symbols or metaphors from contemporary culture utilised in the artwork?

How do they contribute to its meaning and messages?

Has the artist used new media or new technologies to produce the artwork? What impact does this have on the viewer?

How has the internet, virtual technology and augmented reality changed the way that artworks are viewed and presented? How has social media changed the way audiences engage with artworks? How does this differ from traditional ideas about viewing and experiencing artworks in museums and galleries?

How does the choice or presentation of subject matter, media, materials, and techniques or processes reflect or challenge artistic or social traditions?
