



TARRAWARRA
MUSEUM
OF ART

Robert Klippel, *No title (No. 1232) 1980*
installation view (detail), *ASSEMBLED: The Art of Robert Klippel*
TarraWarra Museum of Art, 2019
Photo: Andrew Curtis
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VCE Art: Introducing the Analytical Frameworks

Assembled: The Art of Robert Klippel

Curated by Kirsty Grant
TarraWarra Museum of Art
23 November, 2019 – 16 February, 2020

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 in the exhibition *Assembled: The Art of Robert Klippel*.

What are two of the most important art elements that Robert Klippel uses in this artwork? Give reasons for your answer.

Make a list here of all the words that you can think of to describe the type of shapes Klippel uses in this artwork:

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.
7.	8.	9.
10.	11.	12.

Draw some of these different shapes in the space below:

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

In what ways does the distinctive style of the artwork contribute to its meaning? How does the artwork relate to other works in a similar style from the same philosophical, historical or cultural context?

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

Applying the Personal Framework

Find Robert Klippel's artwork titled *No title (No. 1232)* (1980). How does this artwork make you feel? What do you like or dislike about the work?

What do you think the title of the work means? Why do you suppose that Klippel decided to move away from giving descriptive or evocative titles? What title would you give to this artwork? Give reasons for your answer.

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 *No title (No. 1232)* 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 *No. 247 Metal construction* (1965–68). Research on the internet to find out what was happening in Australian society at this time. Does Robert Klippel’s artwork reflect any of your findings?

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 *No. 247 Metal construction*?

What are some of the symbols or metaphors embedded in this artwork that contribute to its meaning and messages?

Find out how *No. 247 Metal construction* was reviewed or critiqued during the time in which it was made. Was the artwork considered challenging or innovative?

How might the meaning of this 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

Choose a sculpture made by Robert Klippel:

Artwork Title: Year:

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

How do they contribute to its meaning and messages?

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