

Learning Resources for Schools *Space YZ* - Audrey Newton

Video interview: <https://vimeo.com/524574592>

This learning resource accompanies video interview created as part of exhibition Space YZ at Campbelltown Arts Centre. Resources are for primary and high school students and teachers and focus on visual and creative arts.

Artist bio:

Audrey Newton is an 'interdisciplinary' artist, which means she makes artwork across different areas such as writing, sculpture and installation. Her art practice focuses on exploring the way humans connect to things like objects, space and place.

Audrey uses her everyday experiences and imagination for inspiration and plays with how this can be put together for her audience.¹ Her work is constantly exploring, evolving and playing with unexpected materials such as resin, glow-in-the-dark pigment - and eggplants!

Audrey grew up in Western Sydney; she lives in Western Sydney and she studied at the University of Western Sydney. Her artworks have been exhibited locally and internationally and have won multiple awards and prizes.

Themes:

- Identity
- Materiality
- Sculpture
- Space
- Literature
- Heritage
- Place
- Imagination
- Storytelling

Artist quote:

"Whenever I would enter the studio, I would just put things together and somehow something would come together, and those works always seemed to be successful, but, when I overthought and analysed my ideas those artworks seemed to fall flat."²

Practical activity: What Can You See?

See video interview for artist's explanation: 5.12 - 5.51min

Recommended for ages 7 - 16 years

Materials: Any artwork

This is an art appreciation activity. It is best done with a group, with teacher facilitating the discussion.

- Spend some time with an artwork.
- What do you see? List as many things as possible, thinking about what you physically see
- Choose 2 - 4 of these physical aspects in the work. Discuss how each can relate to an idea

¹ <https://www.audreynewton.net/about>

² Space YZ Interview, 1:05.

- If you get stuck, play a word association game: students have to quickly say the first word that pops into their head when we say a descriptive word.
- Talk about these ideas with your group. See how these ideas could mean several things to several people.

References:

<https://www.spaceyz.com.au/yearbook-audrey-newton>

<https://www.audreynewton.net/>

<http://westside.pilotenkueche.net/?p=21374>