

Learning Resources for Schools *Space YZ* - Luis Martinez

Video interview: <https://vimeo.com/524610667>

This learning resource accompanies video interview created as part of the 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:

Luis Martinez is an artist who uses the mediums of drawing and painting to explore the way we see everyday life. He works from photographs when creating his art works, which often show pixilation or distortion.

Luis' work in *Space YZ* was inspired by everyday life, including B-grade horror films and his hometown in Western Sydney. His painting of his family neighbourhood helps us pay attention to the details of suburbia, inviting the audience to see individuality and uniqueness in places we often take for granted.¹

Luis graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts (hons) from the University of Western Sydney.

Themes:

- The everyday
- Landscape
- Suburbia
- Pop culture
- Film
- Portraiture
- Photography
- Translation
- Medium is the message

Artist quote:

"My time at UWS also led to some great opportunities and experiences. I assisted in teaching a painting elective during my honours year which I thoroughly enjoyed. And I also did some casual work with the university curator, helping to install exhibitions and works from the university collection at different campuses. I was also privileged to undertake commissions for the Whitlam Institute to commemorate the 30th anniversary."²

Practical activity: Still Life in White

See video interview for artist's explanation: 4:15 - 4:58

Recommended for ages 7 - 16 years

Materials: Still life arrangement using a white object on a white background (eg. table cloth); blue, red, yellow paints, paper and brushes.

Part 1 (recommended for ages 7+)

- Create a still life arrangement using a white object on a white background. You could use a white wall in your home or school, a white tablecloth or white paper.
- Paint your still life scene using only white and three primary colours (blue, red, yellow) - no black.

¹ <https://www.spaceyz.com.au/yearbook-luis-martinez>

² Ibid.

Part 2 (recommended for ages 12+)

- Paint an eyeball using this technique

This is good practice for painting objects which you think may have no colour. The exercise helps to develop tone and colour in a subtle way and create an illusion of depth.

References:

<https://www.spaceyz.com.au/yearbook-luis-martinez>

https://www.instagram.com/luis_m.art.inez/

<https://www.flindersstreetgallery.com/album/27d61v>