

# Art Encounters: Teacher Guide

## Portable Sculpture

### How to use Art Encounters

Art Encounters and the resource pack have been designed to be adaptable for KS 2-5. The episodes can be used individually or as a series and don't need to be used in order, but you should **start with the Introduction video** to give pupils some background on the artist.

The videos can be used in class or at home. They include suggestions to **pause** at certain points, to **discuss and respond** to questions. This can be done in class in groups or pairs, or remotely at home using the PDF worksheet, or by making notes in a sketchbook. The **Teacher Notes** documents in this pack contain relevant sections of the transcript, with additional discussions prompts that may be useful in class.

The videos suggest **creative activities** that pupils can do in response to the artwork. Some episodes link to activity resources, while others just suggest themes that you may want to explore through your own activities. The following pages have more information on the accompanying resources, with ideas for extension activities to create a longer scheme of work.

We encourage teachers to adapt, experiment and cherry pick from these resources, to suit your group's age, needs and abilities.

### Introduction

Show pupils the Introduction before using the other Episodes, to provide background information about the Portable Sculpture exhibition.

### Episode 1: Places and Spaces

Episode 1 introduces work by three artists, which are inspired by homes, cities or landscapes.

- Do Ho Suh, *Hub, Weilandstr. 18, 12159 Berlin*, 2015 (pictured right)
- Mohamad Hafez, *Green Zone 2019, A Refugee Nation 2015* and *Untitled (Munitions Case) 2018*
- Liz Ensz, *Convexity / Concavity 2015* (detail pictured left)



### Themes

Do Ho Suh: Home, memory, architecture, movement of people (moving home, moving country), travel, experiencing different cultures.

Mohamad Hafez: War, warzones, destruction, migration, refugees, memory, homesickness, heritage, Middle Eastern politics.

Liz Ensz: Landscapes (natural and man-made), mining, natural resources, environmental issues, national identity, global trade.

## Suggested creative activities

- Making artwork inspired by the memory of a place, home or building. Pupils could use the Home Portraits template from Series 1 to make a 3D drawing of a space, or use 3D materials such as plasticine, wire, cardboard or clay to make a scene inspired by Mohamad Hafez's suitcases.
- Creating a 3D landscape inspired by Liz Ensiz, using found objects and fabric or paper. Pupils could make a landscape at home using clothes or blankets, or in school using tissue paper. If using paper, pupils could experiment with patterns or designs, and explore how the patterns change when distorted by the objects (stripes work well!) They could also look at topographical patterns on maps and draw the 'topography' of their landscape.

## Find out more

For further information about the artists featured, follow these links:

Do Ho Suh: [www.lehmannmaupin.com/artists/do-ho-suh](http://www.lehmannmaupin.com/artists/do-ho-suh)

Mohamad Hafez [www.mohamadhafiez.com](http://www.mohamadhafiez.com)

Liz Ensiz: [cargocollective.com/lizensz](http://cargocollective.com/lizensz)

## Episode 2: People, communities and cultures

This video introduces three artworks which represent people, and explore our relationships with our families, communities and heritage.



- Romuald Hazoumé, *Sencha* 2018, *Bacon* 2018, *Bye Bye* 2009, *Geco* 2002, *Teruko* 2019, *Ziggy* 2015, *Tu sors, je sors* 2017 (pictured left)

- Veronica Ryan, *Liminal Spaces* 2019, *Feathers in Her Head* 2019, *Sewing Seeds 2* 2019 (pictured right)

- Louise Bourgeois, *Untitled (Personages Series)* 1953

## Themes

Romuald Hazoume: African history and heritage, African masks, colonialism, movement of people and resources, found objects, communities, unsung heroes.

Veronica Ryan: Family, heritage, migration, craft, sewing, domestic objects and skills, West Indian history and heritage, seeds, growth, movement of people and resources.

Louise Bourgeois: Moving to a new country, family, homesickness, embodiment (art representing a person), totem poles, spiritual objects.

## Suggested creative activities

- Make a mask inspired by the work of Romuald Hazoumé, using everyday objects to make a simple portrait of someone you have met. Encourage pupils to think about the person's features and hairstyle, and the colours they wear when choosing objects. Keep the masks simple by tasking them to use a small number of objects or elements (e.g. 4 or 5 items).
- Follow our resource to make a miniature sculpture inspired by Louise Bourgeois' *Personage* series. Pupils will use a wooden skewer and clay or plasticine shapes to make an abstract sculpture that represents someone they miss.

- Textile activities: Pupils could explore Veronica Ryan's work and use embroidery techniques to write memories in fabric, or select objects that have significance within their family or heritage and mirror Ryan's techniques by sewing these into fabric. Encourage them to think about the crafts or skills that are passed down in their family, and use these techniques in their work.

### Find out more

For further information about the artists featured, follow these links:

Romuald Hazoum : [octobergallery.co.uk/artists/hazoume](https://octobergallery.co.uk/artists/hazoume)

Hazoum  appears in Episode 1 of 'High on the Hog: How African American Cuisine changed Transformed America' on Netflix. (Suitable for aged 16+).

Veronica Ryan: [hepworthwakefield.org/artist/veronica-ryan](https://hepworthwakefield.org/artist/veronica-ryan)

Louise Bourgeois: [www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/louise-bourgeois-2351/art-louise-bourgeois](https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/louise-bourgeois-2351/art-louise-bourgeois)

(Bourgeois explores adult themes – teachers may want to select research material in advance).

## Episode 3: The Art of the Flatpack

This episode introduces two artists who make work that can be 'flat-packed', or are made of modular sections. It includes a Q&A with artist James Ackerley and a suggested activity that he has created especially for Art Encounters. Artwork explored:

- Claire Ashley, *Clown (Laughing Stock)* 2020 (pictured left)
- James Ackerley, *Studio Objects* 2014 – ongoing (pictured right in background)



### Themes

Claire Ashley: toys, play, childhood, motherhood, feminism, characters, colour, painting, site specific (made especially for the space it's shown in), scale – something huge that packs down small.

James Ackerley: modular structures, patterns, maths, chance, geometric shapes, wood, carpentry.

### Suggested creative activities

- Use James Ackerley's grid puzzle resource. Pupils will use simple maths and different colours to complete the puzzle, creating a repeating pattern. This activity can be developed and scaled up, by using graph paper to create larger grids, then following the process to create new, bigger patterns.
- Make an inflatable sculpture using Claire Ashley's 'Create and Inflate' activity resource, which challenges pupils to make their own mini inflatables using thick plastic bags and tape.

## Sensitivity around themes

Portable Sculpture explores migration, displacement, homesickness, missing family and the experiences of refugees. These themes may be triggering for some children and young people, who may require sensitivity and extra support when using these resources.

The Louise Bourgeois activity asks pupils to create a sculpture that represents someone who is important to them, or who they miss, so may trigger difficult emotions for children and young people who have experienced bereavements.

## Questions or feedback?

Contact Engagement Curator Alison Smith on [Alison.smith@henry-moore.org](mailto:Alison.smith@henry-moore.org).