



Top Arts 2023

VCE focus questions



Top Arts focus questions

Celebrating 29 years at the NGV in 2023, *Top Arts* presents exceptional and thought-provoking work. The art exhibited is produced by students who have completed art subjects as part of their VCE.

- ▶ Make your way around the exhibition space and use this booklet and these questions to deepen your understanding of the artworks. It can be helpful to write down your ideas, thoughts and inspiration as you go.



Celeste Yun Hang
The Last You 2022
© Celeste Yun Hang

Explore the work

1. Choose an artwork that you would like to analyse.

- Jot down some initial thoughts about how you respond and relate to the work.
- What makes it stand out to you and what can you learn from it?
- Is the artist expressing a narrative or theme?
- How does it make you feel?

2. Pick a different work.

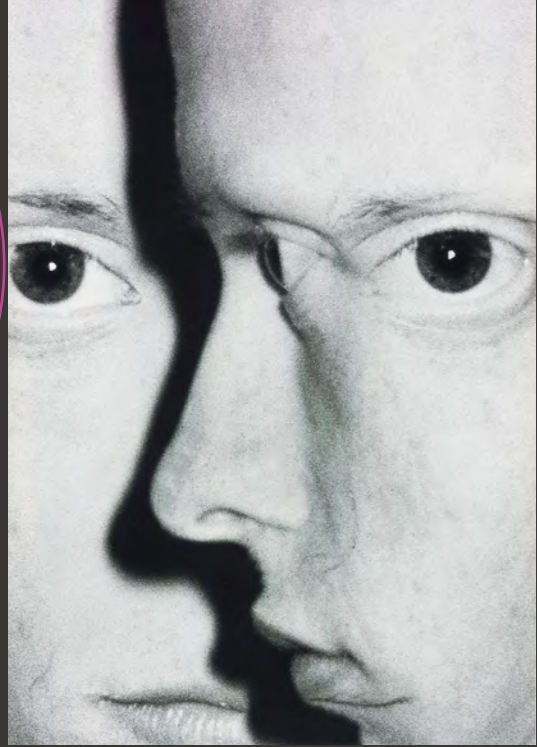
- What concept is the artist communicating?
- How have they used materials and techniques to express it?

3. What inspiration have you gained from the artworks on display?

- Comment on new ideas, mediums, or techniques you'd like to explore over the coming year.



See it differently



4. Find someone you haven't spoken to before and ask them question 1 on page 3 ([Explore the work](#)) about your favourite artwork in the exhibition. Consider their answers.

- Are their answers different to yours? In what way?
- What is one point you agree on?
- What do you disagree on?
- What does this tell you?

5. Think about how artists use materials and techniques by watching exhibitor interviews on the [Top Arts 2023 Hub](#). Listen to how the exhibitors discuss their experimentation, process and use of materials and techniques.

- How does the artist relate to the materials?
- How have they explained their choices and the reasons for their methods?
- How are their techniques different to your own?
- Is there anything they do that you would like to try?

Jack Snow-Vierner
Sulpher Series 2021
© Jack Snow-Vierner

Portfolio preparation

A portfolio is a living and changing collection of your work. It reflects your range, skills, experiences, and inspiration. It can help you the artist gain access to grants and residencies and is often an entry requirement for tertiary education courses.

As an artist, you need to know what a strong portfolio should include.

Please use these prompts to help spur on your creativity as you prepare for VCE and your creative career.



What artforms excite you?

Is it traditional forms like sculpture, oils, and pottery, or new forms like digital painting and animation?



What do you like?

Understanding your passions, ideas, artists, and creations will help you find your creative voice.



Where do you find inspiration?

Galleries, museums, online, in person, books?



How do you communicate your creative process?

Clear communication of your artistic intentions is key to producing a strong portfolio.



Your future in the arts

At Deakin's School of Communication and Creative Arts we recognise that it's difficult to go from zero to hero in a creative space without support. That's why we focus on helping our creators and storytellers develop confidence to take their craft into the world. At Deakin, we nurture your talent, challenge you to be better, and connect you with fellow students who share your passion and energy.

Find out more:



Questions to consider with your careers practitioner when choosing further study

- What do you want your artistic career to look like?
- What kind of impact would you like your work to have?
- What kind of techniques will help grow your practice?
- Will you need specific facilities?
- Where do you want to take your learning?



Amber Smith studied a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Honours) in 2017. They now work as a curator at PLATFORM Arts, a Geelong-based contemporary art gallery, which champions a new generation of thinkers, risk-takers and agitators.

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**NATIONAL GALLERY
OF VICTORIA NGV**

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Perception 2022
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