

## TEACHER RESOURCE – DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

This resource provides discussion questions for teachers to use with students when attending the 2021 *Hobart Current: Liberty* exhibition at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery.



Image: Jacob Leary, *Excessssssssscape 2021*

### ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

*Who chooses freedom for whom, in what space and during what time?*

Rosie Dennis, Creative Director of Hobart Current, has selected ten contemporary artists to help find the answer. Tasmanian artists Sinisa Mansell, Brigita Ozolins, James Newitt, Jacob Leary, Dexter Rosengrave and Nadege Philippe-Janon feature in this program and exhibition, which also spans interstate and international talent including Uncle Wes Marne, Suryo Herlambang, Jagath Dheerasekara and Sarah Jane Pell creating new works in the mediums of film, installation, performance and visual art. The works commissioned for *Liberty* offer personal and vulnerable perspectives on the theme, challenging notions of agency and representation, surveillance and exile.

Throughout 2020, a selection of the *Hobart Current: Liberty* artists led intensive education programs with Tasmanian high school students who researched and created their own projects on the theme.

Two works from *Hobart Current: Liberty* are in the Hobart CBD. Brigita Ozolins' installation *My VOICE* can be seen on the façade of 85 Macquarie Street, over the road from TMAG. Sinisa Mansell's original song *Liberation of Country* begins in Franklin Square and ends in the Salon Gallery at TMAG.

Hobart Current is a major biennial program presented in partnership between the City of Hobart and TMAG, with *Liberty* its inaugural exhibition. Complementing the exhibition, the City of Hobart will present a series of activities in public spaces across the Hobart CBD, providing further opportunities to discover and explore the notion of *Liberty*. The 2021 *Hobart Current: Liberty* exhibition is on display at the Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery from 12 March to 9 May 2021.

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## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Which materials have been used to create this artwork? Why do you think the artist has chosen these materials to create this work?
2. Compare and contrast two of the works in the exhibition, in what ways are they similar? In what ways are they different?
3. Consider the different mediums used by artists in this exhibition. How do these differ from traditional artistic practices?
4. Think about the ways that artists have used sound in their artwork. How does sound influence your overall interpretation of the piece?
5. What do you think the artist is trying to say through their work? How does this relate to or represent the theme of 'liberty'?
6. Can you see any representation of the COVID-19 pandemic in these works? Explain your response.
7. Artists can portray their opinions through artworks. Which topics do you feel are portrayed through the different artists' works?
8. Do any of the artworks remind you of something or spark a particular memory? Share this with someone.
9. What questions would you ask the artist about their artwork?
10. What is your first impression of the artwork? Note this down.  
Now spend 1 minute looking at the artwork and then check your original response, has your opinion changed as you've spent time looking? If so, how?
11. How does the title help you to understand or interpret the artwork?

### Find out more:

[www.hobartcurrent.com](http://www.hobartcurrent.com)

[www.tmag.tas.gov.au](http://www.tmag.tas.gov.au)

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