

Understanding Your Biases: PART I

1. Think about your favourite works of art. Without worrying too much, write down the first 10 that come to mind. Do this now. Beside these artworks, write down the artist, media, and date.

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2. Now, imagine you had to look only at artwork made within a given 50 year period for the rest of your life. Which period of history would you choose?

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3. Write down three colours you find yourself attracted to in artworks. Don't think too much.

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4. a) What is the best idea you have ever had for an artwork? Did you make it? If not, why not?

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4. b) If you had to choose another artist to execute your idea, who would it be?

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5. What is one concrete thing that could be done to improve your overall outlook on life? Write it down. Do you think art could do this thing for you?



6. Have you ever felt guilty for looking at an artwork? Why?



7. Now, write down 10 artworks you hate. Without worrying too much, write down the first 10 that come to mind. Do this now. Beside these artworks, write down the artist, media, and date.

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8. If you had to choose a 50 year period to excise from art history, what would it be?



Understanding Your Biases: PART II

1. Look at your list of favourite artworks. Write down 3 things your favourites have in common.



2. Now, look at your most-hated works. What do these works have in common?



3. Write down 3 features shared between your lists of favourite and most-hated works. Are there qualities you're drawn to despite being repulsed by?



4. Look at your two lists. Draw a small asterisk next to works made by your friends. On balance, do you like or hate work made by your friends? If work by your friends did not make the list, why not?



5. On your two lists, draw a small box next to any work made by a woman or trans*-identified person. If you do not know, that is okay.

6. Next, mark a small circle next to works made by non-heterosexual people. If you do not know, that is okay.

7. Mark a small swirl next to work made by a person of colour or an Indigenous person. If you do not know, that is okay.

8. What is your favourite gallery? How many of the artists on either list have shown there in the past 10 years? You may find it helpful to mark these artists with an arrow.

9. Take a moment to reflect on the marks you have made next to your favourite and most-hated works. Remember, art is not a numbers game. Your opinions about art are yours and yours alone. Understanding yourself first is the key to understanding the art world. Take this moment to think only about yourself.

Understanding Your Biases: PART III

1. Reflecting on your lists, ask yourself: "what are my biases?" Make some notes. Take as long to do this as you like.



2. How do you feel now?



3. What will you do with this feeling?



4. In this area, make a small drawing to describe what you've learned.



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