

Weeks 30-31

Think/pair/share:

1. What are these objects?
2. How are they different to what they normally look like?
3. Why has the artist done this? What might they be trying to say?

Go further:

1. How are these objects hung?
2. Does the title change how you view the artwork?

Title - "According to Grandma" (2019), boxing gloves, vintage linen, chain, and ribbon. Image © Zoë Buckman, shared with permission courtesy of the artist, Pippy Houldsworth Gallery, and MOTHER Gallery.

For some guided responses see next slide



Possible responses to the Questions

1. What are these objects? - Boxing gloves
2. How are they different to what they normally look like? - They are draped like bunches of dried flowers and balanced delicately on top of one another.
3. Why has the artist done this? What might they be trying to say? Boxing gloves are often associated with masculinity, competition, and aggression, but the artist Zoë Buckman punches back with her series of mixed-media sculptures and embroidered textile pieces.

Go further:

1. How are these objects hung? - Buckman encases each form in fabrics like tablecloths, dish rags, or dresses, then suspends them in groups from ribbons affixed to **metal chains**.
2. Does the title change how you view the artwork? "According to Grandma." - Constructed of cotton batting or polyurethane foam and covered in leather, traditional boxing gloves are malleable, yet the finished form is a solid instrument for force and protection. By wrapping each piece in fabric associated with womenswear or domestic settings - and referencing a female grandparent figure, the artist challenges the notion of gendered spaces, such as the home being feminine or the boxing ring masculine.

Why have these series of images been created?

- These slides are to increase confidence looking at images - increase art appreciation and cultural capital.*
- They are to get minds thinking and asking questions.
- They are to show that you can approach any artwork with the knowledge you already have and that everyone can look at and talk about art.
- Each slide has suggested questions and answers.
- When you have done the basic question framework, you could move onto the more detailed framework provided & focus on the four **ways of lookings** developed by Tate.
- For questions & feedback please contact HCU - Ms Curnow, Art & Design E220/T001.

Ways of Looking at Any Artwork

A personal approach - what do I bring?

Yourself - what are your first reactions? Why?

Your world - what does the work remind you of? Why?

Your experiences - what can you connect the work to?



Looking at the subject - what is it about?

Content - what is it, what is it about, what's happening?

Message - What is it saying? Are there symbols?

Title - how does this help you understand the work?

Theme - what is the theme?

Type/genre - it is a nude/still life/landscape? What category of art does it fit into?



Ophelia by Millais - <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/millais-ophelia-n01506/story-ophelia>

Ways of Looking at Any Artwork

Looking at the Object - what can I see?

Colour; Shapes; Marks; Surface - what kinds of textures can you see? **Scale** - what would this object look like if it was smaller/bigger?

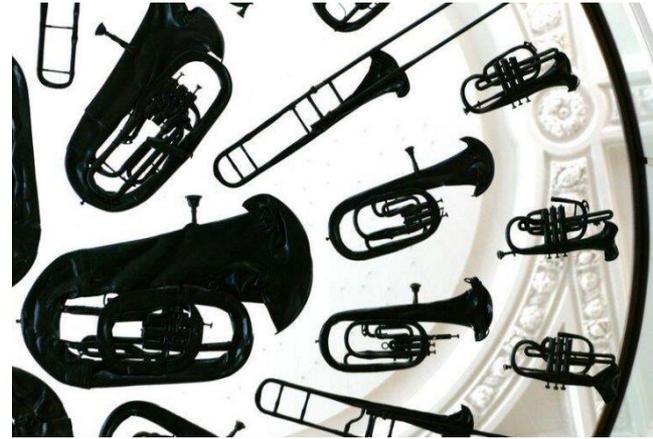
Space - is there a sense of depth or an illusion? Or is it flat?

Materials - traditional or found? What assumptions do you have about that material? What if the materials changed?

Process - how has it been made? Was it handmade or fabricated? What skills were used? Was the process visible or invisible? Has it been assembled/installed? If it's a video-where was it filmed and how is it projected?

Composition - how is the work organised and put together?

What effects do all of the above create?



[Breathless, Sculptural Installation, 2001 \(made\)](#)