



# **Gasworks Arts Park Primary School Tour Booklet**

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## **Information for teachers**

This booklet is designed for primary school students taking part in Gasworks Arts Park tours. The tour and associated discussions and activities are recommended for supporting The Arts domain of the Victorian Essential Learning Standards.

This booklet is recommended for use for students in Prep and Year 1 to 6. Where relevant, key learning focus statements associated with the standards 'Exploring and Responding' or 'Creating and Making' are noted.

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## **Introduction**

Welcome to Gasworks Arts Park. Gasworks Arts Park is made up of two theatres, three gallery spaces, a café and sixteen resident artist studios.

Every year, there are more than 200 performances in our theatres, 30 visual arts exhibitions in our gallery spaces, and more than 1,000 workshops – including special school holiday workshops for kids!

There is a Farmers Market once a month, which sells fresh fruit and vegetables, and lots of homemade treats. Gasworks Arts Park also has a beautiful eight-acre park where people come and walk their dogs, look at the public art sculptures, and enjoy the sunshine.



## Introduction

Image: Retort House and Coke Yards, South Melbourne; circa 1880s.

### Question 1:

Gasworks Arts Park was developed from the remains of the old South Melbourne gas plant. Would you like to have had a job at the gas plant? Why or why not?

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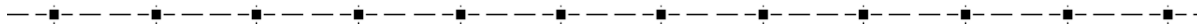
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### Question 2:

Gasworks Arts Park has heritage industrial buildings of great historical significance. What is one historical fact that you have learnt about Gasworks?

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## Foyer Exhibition

(Exploring and Responding: Meaning)

### Question 1:

What do you think this work is about?

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### Question 2:

Are there any symbols in the work that stand out to you? What do they mean?

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# Angela Roberts-Bird Gallery

(Creating and Making: Techniques)

**Question 1:** What is your favourite piece of work in this room? Why?

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Image: Artist materials Wordle  
(Create your own at wordle.net)

**Question 2:** What **materials** did the artist use to make the work?

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**Question 3:** What **techniques** did the artist use to make the work? How long do you think it took them? Why?

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## Back at school

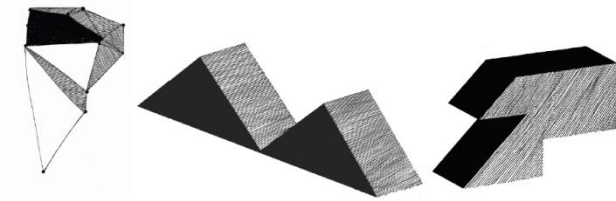
Artists are often influenced by the works of other artists. If you had to make a new artwork that was influenced by the ones that you saw at Gasworks Arts Park, what would it be? What would it look like?

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# Midden

(Exploring and Responding: Sensory Perception)



Midden was carved by artist Matthew Harding in 2008. It was carved in the Gasworks sculpture studio from Victorian bluestone.

The work reflects the remnants of South Melbourne’s industrial past. The shapes used echo the industrial, cultural and ecological heritage of the Gasworks Arts Park site.

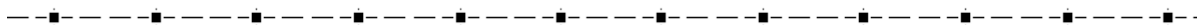
**Question 1:** Close your eyes and rub your hands over the surface of the sculpture. How does it feel? Smooth, rough, hard, soft? Write at least five adjectives below to describe how it felt.

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**Question 2:** Pick a shape that you have seen or felt in Midden. Using your memory, draw the shape that you remember.



## Back at school

Midden reflects the industrial history of the area. What buildings or parklands do you know about that have an interesting history? If you were asked to create a sculpture to reflect that history, what would it be like?



# Not Without Chomley

(Exploring and Responding: Influences)

**Question 1:** What is the name of the artist who made this sculpture?

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**Question 2:** What do you think is the story behind this sculpture? What might have inspired the artist to create this piece? How does the name of the work relate to this?

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**Do you have a pet or a favourite animal? What kind of artwork would you create that features this animal?**

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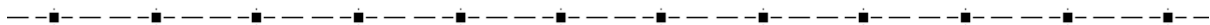
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## Back at school

Artists work with lots of different materials to create their work. At Gasworks Arts Park, there are sculptures made from bronze, steel, and timber just to name a few. Think about a sculpture that you have done in class, or one that you saw at Gasworks Arts Park. Imagine it made from different materials (be as creative as you like!). How does it change the look and meaning of the work when it's made from something entirely different?



## The Angel

### (Creating and Making: Representation)

The Angel by Simone Francis (1992) is made from found timber and fabric. The wings are made of untreated pieces of wood. The empty dress is mounted on a wooden support.

Some people view The Angel as a special guardian angel. Think about a special person in your life. Using objects that you find here like twigs, leaves, or stones, create a small piece of work for them. How does your piece represent how you feel about your special person?

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Sketch your piece here:



## Final task...

Try and remember everything that you've seen today. Draw the key sites on the front of this book, with a path showing where we travelled. Put a star next to your favourite activity from the day.