

Borders - Murray and Burgess, Sarah Fitzgerald, Jan Handel, Michelle Le Dain, Ro Murray and Lisa Pang



Jan Handel



Sarah Fitzgerald



Michelle Le Dain

Information from the artists:

'I love borders. August is the border between summer and autumn; it is the most beautiful month I know. Twilight is the border between day and night, and the shore is the border between sea and land. The border is longing when both have fallen in love but still haven't said anything. The border is to be on the way. It is the way that is the most important thing.' - Finnish artist and writer Tove Jansson

Inspired by this quote from Finnish artist Tove Jansson, six artists have come together with an exhibition built around the idea of 'Borders'. Each artist has responded differently to this theme, some contemplating physical ideas of borders between real spaces within real landscapes, while others have been inspired by conceptual ideas such as life on the edge of extinction, or transitions through spaces and separation from place and belonging.

About the exhibition:

These artists present an exhibition that explores notions of borders between physical spaces, people, ideas, politics and art itself. The areas, points, spaces where we meet, separate and divide are particularly interesting in the current climate of isolation and separation demanded of us during covid lockdowns. Investigation of unity, disunity, collapse, disintegration as well as rebuilding, connection, integration, are explored by the artists across a range of disciplines. The notion of boundaries and borders is intriguing because it enables conversation and discussion. What may appear to be opposites can both attract and repel, a border may be temporary, porous, or a hard edge that cannot be traversed. What happens when a 'hard' boundary is put in place and then removed ... how do we bridge the divide?

Key Concepts:

mapping, physical and psychological boundaries, representation, limitations, separation, isolation, identity.

Art Studying:

Look at https://www.moma.org/learn/moma_learning/themes/maps-borders-and-networks/ you can download the powerpoint with images by Artists: [Alighiero Boetti](#), [Juan Downey](#), [Mona Hatoum](#), [Hong Hao](#), [Barrett Lyon](#), [The Opte Project](#), [Grayson Perry](#), [Rirkrit Tiravanija](#). Choose one artist and analyse how they have represented their ideas about the world.

Artmaking:

Using sculpture, drawing, painting or digital media, come up with your own response to the notion of borders. You might find it helpful to think of the theme in terms of physical, personal, psychological or political points of view. How can you use your chosen medium to represent these ideas?