



YSP  
Family

# JOANA VASCONCELOS

BEYOND



## TALKING TOGETHER

This exhibition celebrates the vibrant artwork of Portuguese artist Joana Vasconcelos. An encounter with her sculptures encourages us to question and reconsider the meanings behind objects, supporting us to think differently about the world around us.

**1. Joana Vasconcelos makes sculptures out of familiar objects. In the first gallery space she has transformed old fashioned telephones into the shape of a gun, and pots and pans into a pair of high heeled shoes.**

- Talk together about why Joana might have chosen to create her sculptures from these objects?
- What might telephones and pots and pans represent?
- Why might she have made a gun and a pair of shoes out of these particular objects?
- What other objects might she have used to create these sculptures?

**2. Find *Vista Interior*, a collection of objects all bought in the year 2000.**

- What do you think the objects have in common?
- If you were to make a collection of objects from a certain point in time, what would you collect and why?

**3. Find a sculpture that has been made using textiles. Talk together about why Joana might have used textile crafts.**

**4. Joana uses many traditional crafts throughout her work, celebrating heritage skills that are often associated with female makers.**

- Talk in your group and see if anyone has a craft skill.
- What skill would you like to learn?
- Why is it important for craft skills to be shared?
- How does our heritage help us think about our place in the world?

**5. Find a sculpture that makes you think about power.**

- Would the sculpture change its meaning if it were made from a different material?
- Why do you think Joana makes some of her sculptures super-sized?

**6. Find *Red Independent Heart #3*.**

- Shut your eyes and listen to the traditional Fado music playing.
- How does the music make you feel?
- What connection do you make between the music and the giant red heart sculpture?
- Do you think everyone might make the same connection? Why?

**7. In your group, each choose an artwork that you feel most connected to.**

- What intrigues you about it? Is it the size, shape or the materials it is made from?
- Share what you have found interesting with your group. Do you all agree?

**8. How and why might Joana's artwork provoke different reactions in people?**

**9. Have a look at Joana's sculptures in the outdoors.**

- Think of a connection between all the sculptures.
- Invent a story as you walk from one sculpture to the other.
- What title would you give your story? Why?



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