



26 May 2018–28 April 2019
Underground Gallery
and open air

Yorkshire Sculpture Park
yvsp.org.uk

Giuseppe Penone A Tree in the Wood

Talking Together

MARIAN GOODMAN GALLERY

Litestructures



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Giuseppe Penone is an Italian artist who has been making art all his life. This is a major exhibition celebrating the work he has made over the last 50 years. He explores our connections to the world around us, using materials, his body and imagination to make work that explores people, nature, memory, time and art.

A tree sculpture called *Matrice* travels through the whole gallery. Penone has carved along one year's growth ring. Imagine the life this tree may have had.

Penone came from a movement called Arte Povera which means 'Poor Art'.

If you could go back to a year in your life and make an exhibition of it, which year would it be and what would you share?

Arte Povera artists made artworks from things they found in the world around them, including trees, soil, clothing, rocks and rope, rather than traditional materials. What materials could you use to make an artwork together in the woods?

Do our memories help form who we are today?

Imagine what it would be like to climb inside a tree. What would you hear? What would you smell? What would the inside of the tree feel like?

Think about your body and all the vital things we barely notice such as how we grow, breathe, our hearts beating. Penone tries to make visible these natural processes in his art.

What do you need to grow physically and emotionally?
Do we share the same needs as trees?
Think about space, quiet, rest, light, and water.

Stand with your group and all take a breath together. See if you can synchronise your breathing for three breaths. Can you breathe deeply and slowly and feel the breath travel through your body – what does it feel like?

Sometimes trees can remind us of ourselves, and be human-like. Do you feel a connection to trees?
How do you feel being next to and amongst trees?
Do you sense them being alive?
What else connects us to trees?

How do we notice ourselves growing?
How do we notice trees growing?
How can we mark our growing older?
How does nature tell us about change?

Some trees live for over 1,000 years. Imagine what a tree sees in a lifetime. Think about the lifetimes of a plant, a rock or pebble on a beach, a tree in your garden, a leaf. Think about our own lifetimes.

Penone is interested in how humans interact with nature; how we are part of it but also sometimes the things we do can harm the natural world.

Does our childhood affect who we become?
Do we all see things in the same way?
How are we changed by our environment and experiences?

What can we learn from the natural world?
What can we do to help the natural world thrive?