



SOMEWHERE BECOMING SEA

| Nikolaj Bendix Skyum Larsen

THE ARTIST

Nikolaj Bendix Skyum Larsen has been a practicing visual artist for over a decade and has exhibited extensively across the world. He works with a variety of different materials and media in order to visualise his ideas. He completed a BA (Hons) Fine Art at Chelsea College of Art (1999) and an MA in Fine Art and Media at the Slade School of Art, London (2001). He lives and works in Paris.

THE WORK

In his work, Larsen not only utilises the media on which he and his generation were reared (audio and video), its themes are also closely related to the problems of growing up in a complex, contemporary society. Larsen intends to show us the impact of migration and the emotions that this has on the migrant. Larsen involves himself closely with various facets of society in order to understand their plight and make meaningful artwork based on these experiences.

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CURRICULUM LINKS

In school:

- ◆ Think about a section of your community (the elderly or a group of judo enthusiasts for example), what type of artwork would be suitable if you documented their experiences? How could you involve yourself in order to make the artwork?
- ◆ Document the day of a person you know. Take photographs of this person as they go about their day, but do this without them knowing.
- ◆ Develop a set of photographs looking at people in your community from interesting viewpoints.
- ◆ Document the movements of three sets of people on maps. Is there a pattern to their movements? What kind of pattern does this create on a map? Use Adobe Photoshop to develop this pattern into something more, perhaps by layering and pasting in your other photographs.
- ◆ Develop drawings based on people in your local areas; manipulate these drawings into projections/installations by simply photocopying onto acetate. Could you overlap the drawings? Would they still be recognisable overlapped?

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CURRICULUM LINKS

At the installation:

- ◆ Can you walk all the way around and into the installation?
- ◆ What interesting viewpoints can you find and document? What is the most suitable way of documenting the installation?
- ◆ Would the installation look and feel different at different times of the day?
- ◆ How does this installation link with its environment and specifically with Hull in your opinion?
- ◆ Look at the installation; can you work out how it has been put together? Do you recognise any of the materials used? What effect does this have?
- ◆ What colours does the artist use in the work? How does this make you feel as a viewer?

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GCSE AND A LEVEL



A01 – describe in detail what you see? What materials has the artist used? What effect does the piece of work have? How might you incorporate the materials or ideas into your own work? Make a detailed annotated drawing of the piece of work. Find an interesting viewpoint and take a series of three photographs.



A02 – experiment with the same materials and media and create your own piece of work in response to Larsen's work.



A03 – make detailed notes about the installation, commenting on materials used, composition, situation, how the installation relates to its environment and make sketches to back up your writing.



Draw interesting thumbnail sketches from around the installation in a variety of materials. Try making drawings with a variety of materials, not just pencil. Time your drawings – do some longer sketches but also some quick 10 second drawings.



Take photographs from around the installation and also of the installation in its surroundings.

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LITERACY KEYWORDS

TECHNIQUE

SITE
SPECIFIC

LIGHT

LANGUAGE

PROCESS

PROJECTION

TEMPORARY

DYSTOPIA

MIGRATION



RAFT OF THE MEDUSA | Lucy and Jorge Orta

THE ARTISTS

Lucy Orta was born in the UK in 1966 and Jorge Orta in Argentina in 1953. They co-create their artwork and founded Studio Orta in 1992. Both artists and Studio Orta have exhibited extensively worldwide. With studios in London, Paris and Les Moulins. Les Moulins is an extension of their artistic practice. This is a series of places dedicated to creating a place for artistic research and production, where the landscapes around the buildings provide artists with their inspirations.

THE WORK

Lucy and Jorge Orta's collaborative work concentrates on social and environmental issues using a wide range of different materials and media, including installation, painting, printing, video, drawings and performance to realise their ideas and create large bodies of work.

The raft produced by Lucy and Jorge Orta is a reminder of the hazardous journeys migrants and slaves have taken throughout history. The raft's makeshift look is a symbol of helplessness felt by the migrants as they make these journeys. This installation includes multi-sensory aspects to immerse the viewer completely.

RAFT OF THE MEDUSA | Lucy and Jorge Orta

CURRICULUM LINKS

In school:

- ◆ Travel somewhere you've never been, collect items that relate to that experience, take photographs as you travel and sketch different aspects of the journey and destination.
- ◆ Discuss what would make you take a hazardous journey, how would you be feeling? Think of three items that you would take with you on a journey, make a series of drawings of them and write about their meaning to you.
- ◆ Discuss the materials that are used in the raft, what materials around you could you make a floating vessel out of? Make a small matchbox sized raft using small items. Float this and take photographs.
- ◆ Develop a series of drawings documenting the sea, how could you use materials inventively to create the illusion of the sea. Scan these drawings into Adobe Photoshop and manipulate to make more abstract pieces of work.

RAFT OF THE MEDUSA | Lucy and Jorge Orta

CURRICULUM LINKS

At the installation:

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- ◆ What interesting viewpoints can you find and document? What is the most suitable way of documenting the installation?
- ◆ Would the installation look and feel different at different times of the day?
- ◆ How does this installation link with its environment and specifically with Hull in your opinion?
- ◆ Look at the installation; can you work out how it has been put together? Do you recognise any of the materials used? What effect does this have? Why have they used these materials? Where do they come from?
- ◆ What colours does the artist use in the work? How does this make you feel as a viewer?
- ◆ How have the artists used smells to engage you into the installation?

RAFT OF THE MEDUSA | Lucy and Jorge Orta

GCSE AND A LEVEL



A01 – describe in detail what you see? What materials have the artists used? What effect does the piece of work have? How might you incorporate the materials or ideas into your own work? Make a detailed annotated drawing of the piece of work. Find an interesting viewpoint and take a series of three photographs.



A02 – experiment with the same materials and media and create your own piece of work in response to Lucy and Jorge Orta's work.



A03 – make detailed notes about the installation, commenting on materials used, composition, situation, how the installation relates to its environment and make sketches to back up your writing.



Draw interesting thumbnail sketches from around the installation in a variety of materials. Try making drawings with a variety of materials, not just pencil. Time your drawings – do some longer sketches but also some quick 10 second drawings.



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RAFT OF THE MEDUSA | Lucy and Jorge Orta

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RAFT

ABSTRACT

MIGRATION

TEMPORARY

LANGUAGE

DYSTOPIA

HUMBER STREET GALLERY

SEASON: ROOTS & ROUTES | **SUBJECT:** ART & DESIGN (KS3 & KS4)
