

Canal to Creek

WestConnex

Transurban

THE WESTCONNEX PUBLIC ART PROGRAM



VADEA
NSW

VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

MISTERY & MIKEY FREEDOM

TIME TUNNEL | STAGE 5 WORKSHEET



Mistery & Mikey Freedom (aka Matthew Peet & Michael (Mike Freedom) Lothian)
Time Tunnel, Arinya Underpass, Linear Park

CRITICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION

VOCABULARY - site-specific, installation, mural, street art, graffiti, architecture, stylised, nostalgia, revitalisation, time and space, optical illusion, perspective, depth, abstraction, immersion, collaborative

ARTWORK/STRUCTURAL FRAME

If you are unable to visit the site of **Time Tunnel** in the Arinya Underpass, you can access an online, interactive experience [here](#). While you are engaging either physically or virtually with the artwork, list 6 words you would use to describe it.

List four objects depicted in the artwork. Do they have any meanings or references for you?

What do you think this artwork is about?



CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

ARTIST/S

Matthew Peet (aka Mistery) and Michael Lothian (aka Mikey Freedom) are local street artists who were commissioned nearly two decades ago to paint an underpass mural for Linear Park, Kingsgrove and who have now been recommissioned for the WestConnex Public Art Program – Canal to Creek

Mistery is a pioneer legal graffiti artist. Mistery was integral to the development of the street scene in Newtown. As a National Art School graduate, Mistery has become a multidisciplinary artist who works both nationally and internationally.

Mikey Freedom is a University of Western Sydney graduate and academic and has evolved his multidisciplinary practice over many years. His works exemplify a broad range of public and private engagement that includes art/mural workshops and exhibitions over many years.

WORLD

Arinya Underpass is within the urban, inner Sydney area of Kingsgrove. As part of the WestConnex Public Art Program this contemporary artwork helps to activate and engage local audiences to an existing but newly connected and rejuvenated space.

The artwork depicts imagery that represents the past, present and unknown but imagined future of the site.

ARTWORK

As part of the WestConnex Public Art Program - Canal to Creek, this artwork was chosen from a range of submitted artwork proposals by a selection committee. It is a mural installation designed specifically for the Arinya underpass and consists of a brightly painted mural that not only goes from end to end but breaks out over the tunnel facades.

While a number of themes were proposed by the artists, the team chose to merge the 'Meeting Places' and 'Time Tunnel' themes and depict a series of stylised images of key local buildings both past and present. These building facades are juxtaposed with colourful, abstract shapes designed to suggest a future landscape yet to come.

INVESTIGATION QUESTIONS:

- What visual codes are chosen to create the feeling of a time tunnel?
- How does the artwork communicate a sense of time and place?
- How have colour and shape been used to connect with the local community?
- Mistery & Mikey Freedom are collaborative street artists. How do you think this impacts on their practice?
- How have personal and community interests and ideas in the world been represented in this work?

ARTWORK / AUDIENCE

PUBLIC ART - use the following link to research what is public art and write a definition in your own words.
- <https://acca.melbourne/education/resources/public-art/what-is-public-art/>

- Public Art can enhance and improve community and social understandings of local history. How is this achieved in **Time Tunnel**?
- How has the location of this artwork in a public place added to its meaning and/or value?
- Other than local people who may walk through the underpass, what other types of audience might engage with this work?
- As an audience member, what ideas and experiences do you bring to an interpretation of this artwork?

ARTMAKING TASK

Design your own mural or underpass that connects to local history

- Choose a pedestrian underpass or wall in your area.
- Prepare a few quick sketches of the site.
- Research the history of the site and local area, take photos and collect stories.
- Choose a theme for your work and create your own mural or underpass design that will connect visitors and pedestrians to the local history.
- Consider colour, imagery and composition.
- Create the design digitally - look at how Mistery & Mikey Freedom created their concept work on top of site photos (slides 3 & 10).


EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Create an artist proposal to accompany the design by following the points in slide 11. This should outline your ideas, research, concept drawings and final proposal. It could also include a budget. Consider submitting the proposal to Council or the owner of the site as a project to undertake.