

Canal to Creek

WestConnex

Transurban

THE WESTCONNEX PUBLIC ART PROGRAM



VADEA
NSW

VISUAL ARTS & DESIGN
EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

DANIEL TEMPLEMAN

EIGHT RINGS | STAGE 4 WORKSHEET



Daniel Templeman
Eight Rings (2019-2020)
Size: 6m (w) x 7.2 m(d) x 3m (h)
Materials: Welded in 5mm aluminum with a bright yellow, polyurethane paint finish.
Industrially produced and constructed by the Albert Smith Group (ASG)

CRITICAL AND HISTORICAL INVESTIGATION

VOCABULARY - visual perception, public art, site specific , transformation, interactive, conceptual art, minimalism, fluid and fixed, voids, dynamic, immersive, geometric, marquette

Templeman's ***Eight Rings*** is part of the [WestConnex Public Art Program](#) – Canal to Creek. The theme of the overall project was **TRANSFORMATION** with artist's encouraged to explore responses to changes in place and culture.

Each set of enormous yellow welded steel rings appear to rest against each other and on the ground. The two sets of rings echo the inbound and outbound nature of the surrounding WestConnex M8 infrastructure, thus linking the artwork to the surrounding urban area.

ART CRITICAL / ART HISTORICAL - CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK:

Eight Rings by Dan Templeman is a large scale, geometric public sculpture set in a Linear Park, in Sydney's South-West. The artist has taken an abstract and minimalist approach and constructed two identical sets of four rings 'cut' from two identical cylinders.

INVESTIGATION QUESTIONS:

1. Break into groups of 2 or 3 students: Find a good definition for three of the key words above and explain how they could be used in context: share with the class. Add new words to your vocabulary list.
2. **ARTWORK:** List 10 key words that describe ***Eight Rings***. Review vocabulary list.
3. Describe the artwork in your own words using these words. Use descriptive, evocative language to create a 'word picture' so that anyone reading your paragraph can accurately imagine the artwork within its site. (1 paragraph)

Templeman has designed ***Eight Rings*** to fit perfectly into its urban park site, alongside the WestConnex motorway. The design and shape of the finished work is therefore site specific. It is informed by the size, shape and scale of the exterior space where it is installed. He is particularly interested in the artwork's relationship within the space it's situated, rather than making an artwork off site then transforming the space to suit it.

4. **CONCEPTUAL PRACTICE:** Explain how the artist considers the site in his design. Write a definition of 'site-specific' in art and find an example of another site specific artwork. Include a picture of it.

Templeman sees the role of public art as giving personality to a specific space, to allow for different voices or points of view and to increase amenity and accessibility for the general population in what otherwise could be conceived as an alienating public space. Templeman intends his artwork to be "*predominantly for the enjoyment of adjoining residents and parkland users*", and consequently is designed for a general public audience aimed at pedestrian engagement.

5. **ARTWORK:** What is public art and how does it differ from art found in a museum, gallery or in someone's home? (2 sentences)

The more we seek to interact and understand the geometric circular forms, shapes, spaces and voids, the more sense we can make of both the sculpture and the world around us. Through the voids the audience captures constantly changing glimpses of the surrounding urban environment, allowing them to take note of the world around them in new and exciting ways.

6. **STRUCTURAL FRAME:** Define what is positive and negative space and how is it used by Daniel Templeman in ***Eight Rings***? (2 sentences)

ARTMAKING TASK

Below are examples of **abstract, geometric, marquette** sculptures from art history.



Orpheus (Maquette 2) (Version II)
1956 Barbara Hepworth
accessed 02/02/2021 <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artworks/hepworth-orpheus-maquette-2-version-ii-t00955>



Creature Marquette
Lygia Clark 1964
Accessed 02/02/2021 <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/artists/lygia-clark-7714>



Untitled, Donald Judd 1977; in Münster, Germany. Accessed 02/02/2021
<https://www.britannica.com/art/Minimalism>

Complete 3 preliminary drawings in your diary for a geometric marquette sculpture. Choose one design then construct a cardboard, **marquette** sculpture on a flat **geometric podium** based on **abstract** geometric shapes. Consider how the sculpture balances on the podium. Construction materials will include glue guns, PVA glue, stencil knives and acrylic paint.