

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery presents...

22 nov.— 1 feb. 2025

Dionisia Salas

Of mouth and mind



Education Kit



About the Education Kit and Dionisia Salas *Of mouth and mind*

Of mouth and mind is a solo exhibition of the work of artist Dionisia Salas who currently lives and works in Walbanga Country, Braidwood NSW. Salas' drawings and paintings dive into the relationship that exists between our mind and our physical body.

Salas' works attract the eye and draw in the audience through vivid colours, complex layering, and a variety of shapes and textures. Within the forms and colours found in Salas' works are references to the human body including hair, organs, and blood.

This resource has been created by Education Officer, Samantha Wiltshire, and includes practical and theoretical activities for all ages. It can be used before and after visiting the Gallery.

Dionisia Salas Word Scramble

For any age or stage

Unscramble the letters to make some key words relating to *Of mouth and mind*.

AI SNIDIO	-----
SALSA	-----
CHAGICSOLOPYL	-----
RAIDWOBD	-----
AGUECH	-----
TAPGININ	-----
GRADWIN	-----
PICSYLAH	-----

Dionisia Salas *Find-a-Word*

For any age or stage

DIONISIA

SALAS

MOUTH

MIND

OIL

GOUACHE

INK

BRAIDWOOD

PHYSICAL

PSYCHO-

LOGICAL

DRAWING

PAINTING

COLOUR

P	C	F	E	X	P	E	R	I	M	E	N	T	V	J	G
W	S	M	P	E	N	E	R	G	Y	A	L	W	X	Y	K
Y	A	Y	D	O	B	Q	Y	Z	K	V	S	R	Q	E	S
R	L	Z	C	P	A	I	N	T	I	N	G	S	H	K	D
A	A	Q	O	H	S	W	U	Q	W	S	T	C	M	D	O
T	S	R	N	Y	O	X	F	X	S	R	A	I	Q	V	O
N	L	G	T	S	J	L	Z	H	T	U	O	M	V	D	W
E	K	N	R	I	W	B	O	U	O	O	L	D	P	I	D
M	T	I	A	C	Z	R	J	G	J	L	J	N	F	V	I
I	Q	R	S	A	X	A	N	D	I	O	N	I	S	I	A
L	T	E	T	L	K	I	Z	T	N	C	Q	M	P	V	R
P	X	Y	F	T	W	N	V	T	K	Y	A	Z	I	Q	B
M	S	A	U	A	B	S	W	R	A	C	T	L	R	V	U
O	W	L	R	H	Y	X	K	W	Q	X	P	F	I	J	L
C	I	D	R	E	A	M	O	V	E	M	E	N	T	Q	G
O	L	Z	S	U	B	C	O	N	S	C	I	O	U	S	E

Can you find any other words which might be related to this show in the crossword above?

For the Littlest Ones

Preschool and early stage 1, 4-6 years olds (support required)



Swimming in Swirls

There are lots of swirls and shapes in Dionisia Salas' paintings. With help from an adult, dip pieces of string into some paint or food colouring. Drag your string across the page in the box below to make swirls and patterns.

Dionisia Salas, *Cry milk stains*, 2024, oil on canvas, 122 x 122cm, image courtesy of the artist, Photograph by Steven Best. Collection of the artist.

For the Young Ones

Stage 1– stage 2, 6-9 years old

Dionisia Salas, *Untitled 10*, 2024, gouache and ink on paper, 21 x 29.5cm, image courtesy of the artist, photograph by Steven Best. Collection of the artist.

How many faces can you see in this drawing, *Untitled 10*, by Dionisia Salas?

What do you think these people are thinking or feeling?



Funky Faces

Can you draw a face without looking? Find some friends to draw in the box below. For this drawing challenge you can only look at your friend's faces, not at your pencil and paper.



Fruit Salad



Dionisia Salas, *Dream fruit*, 2024, oil on canvas, 107 x 107 cm, image courtesy of the artist, photograph by Steven Best. Collection of the artist.

This painting by Dionisia Salas is called *Dream fruit*. Which parts of this artwork remind you of fruit?

Can you design an invented fruit from your imagination? In the box below draw your fruit using any coloured drawing or painting materials that you have at home.

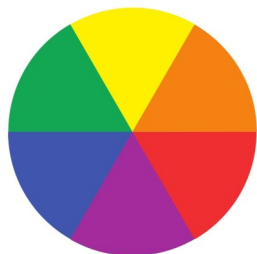
For Those in Between

Stage 3, 10-12 years old

Colour Conundrum

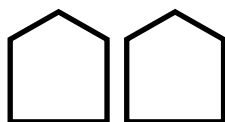
How many different colours can you see in Dionisia Salas' work? List them below:

Dionisia Salas, *You, me*, 2023, oil on canvas, 92 x 92cm, image courtesy the artist, photograph by Steven Best. Collection of the artist.



Sometimes artists can use colours which are opposite from each other on the colour wheel to make works look vivid and bright. These are called complimentary colours.

Which three pairs of colours live across from each other on the colour wheel? Colour in the houses below to show your answer:



Draw chimneys on the houses if you can see that Dionisia Salas has used them in the artwork above.

Finders Keepers



Many of Salas's works have recognizable forms within them. A recognizable form is a shape or object that looks familiar, for example a face.

In the box below draw a swirling flowy line with your eyes closed. Once you are finished, open your eyes and look for any familiar shapes. Add to your drawing with your eyes open to make the forms you have found clear. Colour in the work using at least one complimentary colour pair.

Dionisia Salas, *Untitled 6*, 2023, gouache and ink on paper, 41 x 31cm , image courtesy of the artist, photograph by Steven Best. Collection of the artist.

For the Teens

Stages 4 and up. 12+ years old

Conceptual Deep Dive

Dionisia Salas often explores dream states, and the subconscious mind. Explain in your own words how artistic techniques have been used to communicate this:

What elements of *With spent mouths* reminds you of the human body?



Dionisia Salas, *With spent mouths*, 2023, oil on canvas, 97 x 97cm, image courtesy of the artist, photograph by Steven Best. Collection of the artist. .

- Challenge: Can you create a work in your own style exploring human anatomy?

Practice Led Research

“I have been using the canvas as a space for automatic drawing, where physical, spiritual and less structured ideas act as a starting point. The drawings play out, compete, evolve, churn and invade; form bulges out of shape, weaves with line. Moving into paint the colour mashes together to form brown, grey and deep visceral tones that contrast with the pure, tube-squeezed and clean.” Dionisia Salas



Dionisia Salas portrait, courtesy of the artist.

How does Salas' technical approach reflect an interest in both psychology and the physical body?

Refine Your Practice Challenge

Salas uses a process of layering and building to develop artworks. Find a spare piece of paper or canvas at home and develop your own unique work in your own style. Your artmaking process must integrate the following four layers:

1. A drawing layer.

3. An experimentation layer.

2. An underpainting layer.

4. A refining details layer.

Take photographs of each stage as you develop your work.

Conceptual Framework Contemplation

Using what you have learnt about Dionisia Salas over the previous two pages, fill out the conceptual framework table below. Think about how the world and audience might respond to Salas' practice, and about how Salas may respond to the world. Enhance what you have learnt by doing your own additional research online.

Once you have finished the table below, create a new one on a fresh sheet of paper. Fill it out thinking about your own artmaking practice.

Artist What elements of the artists life and experiences might impact the work ?You'll need to do some research for this one! Artists websites are great places to start.	Artworks What do we know about the artworks, the way they were made and the concepts they explore? What is the link between the techniques and concepts?
World What contemporary world issues or topics does the artist respond to through their work?	Audience How might different audiences interpret these works, what might they take away? Can you find any audience comments or responses online?

Goulburn Regional Art Gallery acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land where Goulburn Regional Art Gallery operates today and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

Cover Image: Dionisia Salas, *In the hellebores*, 2024, oil on canvas, 102 x 102cm, image courtesy of the artist, photograph by Steven Best. Private Collection.



Goulburn Regional Art Gallery is supported by the NSW government through Create NSW