



The Contemporary Art Space Project

Silhouette of Sound

by Laurie Ramsell

with Year 4 pupils from Abbeywood First School

This work looks at how we communicate. Year 4 pupils were asked to represent themselves using drawing, sculptural techniques and sound. Voice recordings of three of the children saying their own names out loud were then used to create these three sculptures. The artist, Laurie Ramsell used the two dimensional soundwaves from the sound recordings to inspire three-dimensional models. Each piece consists of around 70 circular slices of varying diameter, representing the peaks and troughs of each waveform, stacked vertically. They are painted in colours chosen by the children.

What do you think?

Materials: Marine plywood, paint (1.4m x 0.5m approx)

Size: Each sculpture is the height of the children they represent x 0.5m

Reflection text by Lyn French, psychoanalytic
psychotherapist and Director, A Space

Image by Anita Fazal

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REFLECTIONS

Silhouette of Sound gives form to what we can usually only hear. One of the most important uses of sound is language. Giving words to our experiences and communicating with others connects us with our family, friends and community.

- What are the key features of good communication?
- What kinds of conversations make our relationships more meaningful?

If we stop to think about it, we'll discover that we have ideas and opinions about who we are and our place in the world. We need to get in touch with these thoughts and change those which work against us.

- Our culture, skin colour, race and class are all part of our identity. What might they tell us about who we are?

How we see our differences and personal qualities affects how we feel about ourselves. Instead of wishing we were like others, we can learn to value what makes us unique.

- Give examples of self-talk that links to identity. Change any negative thoughts to reflect more balanced thinking.