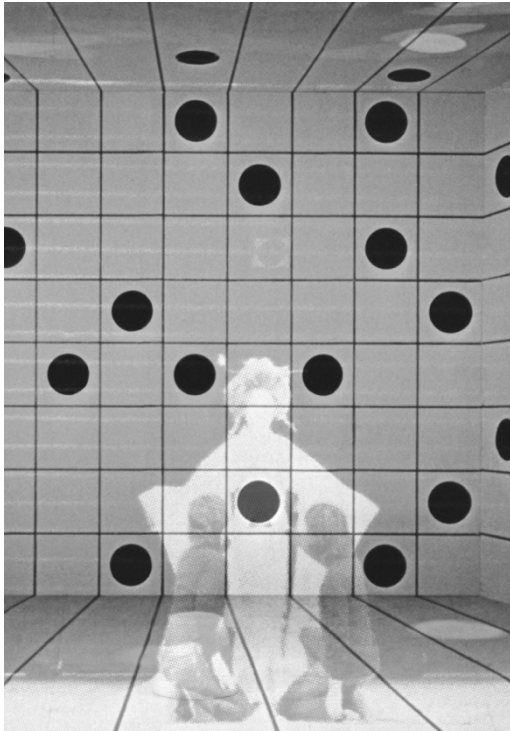


EDUCATION RESOURCE



David Noonan: *A Dark and Quiet Place*
23 March - 28 April 2018

A Dark and Quiet Place is David Noonan's first filmic work since the early 2000s, and Gertrude is thrilled to be the context for its Australian premiere. Regarded as one of Australia's most internationally respected artists, Noonan returns to the medium of film in a way entirely different to his previous video works, taking cue and evolving out of his work in collage, image manipulation and screen printing of the past decade and a half. Retaining a basis in theatre and utilising archival imagery, the densely layered film evolves over time in manner more associative of a montage and collusion of representation and abstraction.

Image: David Noonan, *A Dark and Quiet Place*, 2017, production still (detail).

CURRICULUM

Media Art Levels 7 - 8

Respond and Interpret (VCAMAR038): Analyse how technical and symbolic elements are used in media artworks to create representations influenced by genre and the values and viewpoints of particular audiences

Question: Analyse the technical and symbolic elements used in David Noonan's film. How is this film different to other media artworks you have experienced?

Suggestion: The film is made up entirely of still images from the artist's archive. As you watch the film discuss how these still images and their technical and symbolic elements work together to create meaning for the viewer.

Activity: David Noonan's film is made up entirely of still images that continually change and transform. He has described his artwork as 'essentially a montage of figurative and abstract images'. In this activity you are going to create your own animated still, also known as a simplified Plotagraph. An animated still is essentially a motion picture effect created from a single still image. You can create this effect by first taking or choosing an interesting photo and then using a number of tools and effects in Adobe Photoshop. The animation is created by stretching a particular portion of the image using key frames in the Photoshop animation timeline. By repeating this simple transformation in a loop this process gives the viewer the impression that the picture is moving.

See these online tutorials for a step to step guide:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmEcxGghzHE>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kW07wyP3qm4>

Media Art Levels 9 - 10

Respond and Interpret (VCAMAR045): Analyse and evaluate how technical and symbolic elements are manipulated in media artworks to challenge representations framed by social beliefs and values in different community and institutional contexts

Question: Analyse and evaluate the technical and symbolic elements used in David Noonan's film. How is this film different to other media artworks you have encountered?

Suggestion: The film is made up entirely of still images from David Noonan's archive. As you watch the film discuss how these still images and their technical and symbolic elements have been manipulated by the artist.

Activity: David Noonan's film is made up entirely of still images that continually change and transform. He has described his artwork as 'essentially a montage of figurative and abstract images'. In this activity you are going to create your own animated still, also known as a simplified Plotagraph. This is essentially a motion picture effect created from a single still image. You can create this effect by first taking or choosing an interesting photo and then

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Visual Arts Levels 7 - 8

Explore and Express (VCAVAE034): Explore how artists use materials, techniques, technologies and processes to realise their intentions in art works

Question: What materials, techniques and technologies has the artist used? How do these elements help to express meaning in his artwork?

Suggestion: Explore the artistic practices of David Noonan and discuss your interpretation of his artistic intentions. How has this film differed from his other works and how has it stayed the same?

Activity: David Noonan's film is made up entirely of still images that continually change and transform. He has described his artwork as 'essentially a montage of figurative and abstract images'. In this activity you are going to create your own animated still, also known as a simplified Plotagraph. This is essentially a motion picture effect created from a single still image. You can create this effect by first taking or choosing an interesting photo and then using a number of tools and effects in Adobe Photoshop. The animation is created by stretching a particular portion of the image using key frames in the Photoshop animation timeline and by repeating this simple transformation in a loop this process gives the viewer the impression that the picture is moving.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kw07wyP3qm4>

Visual Arts Levels 9 - 10

Present and Perform (VCAVAP044): Create, present, analyse and evaluate displays of artwork considering how ideas can be conveyed to an audience

Question: Analyse and evaluate the display of David Noonan's film. Describe the physical exhibition space, and the exhibition design, including sound, lighting shape and dimensions of the space. How do you think these elements effect what is conveyed to the audience?

Suggestion: As you watch the film, write down or discuss the films subject matter (objects and things that you see). How is this subject matter conveyed visually by the artist?

Activity: Plan the design, display and presentation of a filmic work in an art gallery context. Think about how this differs from other film contexts i.e. cinema, home etc.

Explore and Express ideas (VCAVAE041): Explore how artists manipulate materials, techniques, technologies and processes to develop and express their intentions in art works

Question: What materials, techniques and technologies has the artist used? How do these elements help to convey meaning and intention in the artist's work?

Suggestion: Explore the artistic practices of David Noonan and using visual evidence, collected from your experience with the artwork discuss your interpretation of his artistic intentions.

Activity: David Noonan's film is made up entirely of still images that continually change and transform. He has described his artwork as 'essentially a montage of figurative and abstract images'. In this activity you are going to create your own animated still, also known as a simplified Plotagraph. This is essentially a motion picture effect created from a single still image. You can create this effect by first taking or choosing an interesting photo and then using a number of tools and effects in Adobe Photoshop. The animation is created by stretching a particular portion of the image using key frames in the Photoshop animation timeline and by repeating this simple transformation in a loop this process gives the viewer the impression that the picture is moving.

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VCE Studio Art

Unit 1.3: Interpreting art ideas and use of materials and techniques: The work of artists from different times and cultures is studied to gain a broader understanding of how artworks are conceived, produced and exhibited. Students discuss the way artists have used materials and techniques, and interpreted ideas and sources of inspiration in producing artworks.

Question: What is an artists' archive? Why do you think the artist's archive is so significant to both the conceptual and aesthetic outcomes of David Noonan's film?

Suggestion: As you watch the film think about and discuss the socio-cultural and historical context of the individual stills/frames. Are they taken from similar contexts or do they differ?

Activity: Art 'reflects and communicates the values, beliefs and traditions' of different times and cultures. This activity asks you to consider David Noonan's artistic practice in this light. Choose a David Noonan artwork, one that is not displayed in this exhibition and print out a copy of the artwork. Analyse and annotate the artwork in relation to the ideas and sources of inspiration embedded in the artwork as well as the materials and techniques used by the artist.

Unit 4.3, Art industry contexts: Students analyse how specific artworks are presented and demonstrate their understanding of the artists' and curators' consideration of how artworks are displayed within the art exhibitions

Question: How is the film displayed within the art gallery? Why do you think the curator has chosen this form of exhibition display/design? How does the exhibition design either enhance or detract from the film itself?

Suggestion: As you watch the film, look around you and consider the space with in which the artwork is being exhibited. How has the exhibition space been designed? What are the conservation concerns connected with the display of video art?

Activity: You are the curator of David Noonan's current exhibition, A Dark and Quiet Place. This is the artist's first filmic work in over a decade and you are curating the Australian premier. Research, plan, and design an alternative display model for this exhibition. How would it differ from the current display this artwork?

Glossary

Abstraction - Non-representational works of art that do not depict scenes or objects in the world or have discernable subject matter.

Archive - Traditionally an archive is a store of documents, images or artefacts of a purely documentary nature.

Collage – Refers to the technique of making compositions in two dimensions or very low relief by gluing paper, fabrics, photographs, or other materials onto a flat surface.

Curator – Primarily seen as a person whose job it is to research and manage a collection and organize exhibitions.

Film - A series of moving images, especially those recorded on film and projected onto a screen or other surface.

Film Stills - Single photographic images taken from a motion picture film, resulting in still photographs of the action, actors, or production of a motion picture.

Image Manipulation – The transformation of an image to convey what you want, rather than what the original image may have shown.

Montage - Refers to the technique of making compositions from portions of existing images, such as drawings or photographs, arranged into somewhat unified images.

Representation – A manner of expression by an artist in which the subject matter is presented so that the observer is reminded of actual visible forms. The act of representing people, places and times, shared social values and beliefs through images, sounds and text, or a combination of these. The representations are a constructed reality.