



Inside the world of Patricia Piccinini's transgenic creatures

Lead-in

1. Do you consider yourself an art lover? What kind of art are you most interested in?
2. What is the role of art, in your opinion?

Video

Watch a short video about an Australian artist - Patricia Piccinini and her sculptures and answer the questions.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z86MSk317nA>



1. How would the artist, Patricia Piccinini, like her viewers to respond to her art?
2. What's the latest show "Curious Affection" about?
3. What can a viewer notice about the orangutan mother?
4. The common theme for the whole show is fecundity or the potential to _____.
5. Where does the artist get ideas from for her creations?
6. Her main purpose is to engage in a _____ with the public.
7. Why does the artist say she cares very much about her works of art?
8. The artist says she creates myths through her artworks. What's her justification for it?
9. The sculptures convey a message about how we change the environment and the artists believes that engaging with these works of art should inspire people to ____ and ____.

Over to you

1. How did the sculptures of Patricia Piccinini make you feel?
2. What adjectives would you use to describe the creatures?
3. Did you find yourself warming up to the cross-bred beings the more you looked at them?
4. How does the artist question the notion of humanness- what it means to be human? Do you see these creatures as essentially human?
5. In one interview, the artist said: 'I question how far science and technology may take us, and what ethical questions arise around beings that are non-conformative and imperfect'. What developments in science and technology might she be referring to? What message about those developments do you think the transgender beings convey?
6. How can you interpret Kindred, the Orangutan Mother?
7. Do you agree with the artist that people connect to issues that are difficult if they are presented in a mythological context? Can you think of some other artists who employ the same medium?
8. Do you believe, like Patricia Piccinini, that art can have a very powerful influence on people and inspire them to take action? Have you ever been inspired by art to take action?
9. Can you think of an artist from your country who is famous for his/her thought-provoking ideas?