

**JACKY REDGATE: HYPNAGOGIA WITH MIRRORS  
OLD AND NEW WORK, 1977 – 2023**

**16 September - 26 November**

*Hypnagogia with Mirrors* is an artist project that encompasses some of Jacky Redgate's best-known works along with others previously unseen, and new and archival materials. In her work, mirrors are at once means and metaphors, reflecting other times, other dimensions. This show is also site-specific, playing on the Wollongong Art Gallery's architecture, history, and collection.

One of Australia's leading contemporary artists, Redgate has a practice extending across six decades. Emerging within the contexts of late modernism, minimalism and conceptualism, and feminism, she is known for her photographic and sculptural works exploring systems and logics, impersonal and personal.

*This exhibition worksheet has been designed for Visual Arts / Photography students who are in Years 10 – 12.*

**Student Name & School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Question 1**

**Hypnagogia** is the transitional state from wakefulness to sleep, also described as the waning state of consciousness during the onset of sleep<sup>1</sup>. Jacky Redgate references Hypnagogia in her art practice. Redgate also uses mirrors in her art practice physically but also metaphorically and has titled her exhibition *Hypnagogia With Mirrors*.

Choose an artwork in this exhibition that you think is an example of *Hypnagogia With Mirrors: Old and New Work, 1977-2023*

Write down the titles of two artworks and the year they were made.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In the space below, draw a quick sketch of what these artworks looks like.

In your own words, describe how these artworks depicts *Hypnagogia With Mirrors*

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<sup>1</sup> <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hypnagogia>

## Question 2

Jacky Redgate states:

*For over forty years, I've used mirrors in my work as material and metaphor.*

A metaphor is a comparison which is not literally true. It suggests what something is like by comparing it with something else with similar characteristics.<sup>2</sup>

How does the artist use mirrors as material and metaphor? For example, the artist is a twin 'which is the perfect metaphor for the mirror'<sup>3</sup>. What other doubling, redoubling, reversals and repetitions can you find in the exhibition? Find three examples and list them below:

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Question 3

Refer to the **Subjective Frame** and your personal experience when analysing the following artwork by Jacky Redgate. In your answer you can refer to the following questions:

What is your first impression? What do you see? What do you experience or feel? What are you reminded of?



Jacky Redgate *Work-to-Rule IV* 1986–7, Cibachrome photograph, 102 x 80cm.

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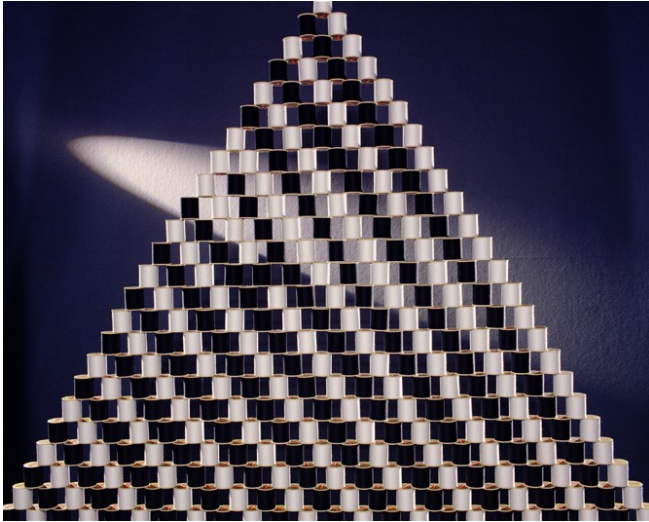
<sup>2</sup> <https://www.theschoolrun.com/what-metaphor#:~:text=A%20metaphor%20is%20a%20comparison,a%20piglet%20is%20a%20metaphor.>

<sup>3</sup> Jacky Redgate: *Hypnagogia With Mirrors: Old and New Work, 1977-2023 Catalogue*, page 8

#### Question 4

Refer to the **Structural Frame** when analysing the following artwork by Jacky Redgate. In your answer you can refer to the following questions:

Describe the visual language – lines, shapes, colours, textures, tones, repetition, and direction? Discuss the materials used and the process used to create this artwork? What style, period or art movement do you think this artwork belongs to?



Jacky Redgate Work-to-Rule I 1986–7, Cibachrome photograph, 102 x 127cm.

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#### Question 5

*Hypnagogia With Mirrors* is site-specific.

The term site-specific refers to a work of art or exhibition designed specifically for a particular location and that has an interrelationship with the location<sup>4</sup>.

List the ways *Hypnagogia With Mirrors* is site-specific.

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#### Question 6

The artist uses found photographs in her work. Where can you find found photographs in the exhibition, both photographic work, in the video work and archival material. Hint: include any information you see in artwork labels.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.tate.org.uk/art/art-terms/s/site-specific>

**Question 7**

Find the archival cabinet that features the following photograph of the artist and her twin sister holding dolls, as well as her mother Doris and sister Eva holding dolls at a different time.



Photographer probably Doris Redgate (nee Brown) *Jacky and Lesley Holding Dolls, Back Garden, South Harrow, London c.1963*, gelatin silver photograph, 8 x 5.5cm.



Photographer probably Elizabeth Brown (nee Bolton) *Doris and Eva at the Back of Canada Crescent, Acton, London 1938*, gelatin silver photograph, 8 x 5cm.

What parallels does the artist make between her migration and her mother's, which was shortly before the outbreak of war?

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How does the theme of migration and dolls play-out throughout the exhibition?

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**Question 8**

**Practical Activity:**

In pairs, collect a small mirror from Gallery staff to complete the following practical tasks.

Using a mirror, look into it and notice the way a mirror sees things in reverse. i.e. flips things back to front.

What ways has the artist used actual mirrors in her work. Hint: *Light Throw (Mirrors) Fold* contains mirrors. Examine the way one side of the screen is reflected in the other.

Create and photograph a mirror image of yourself in the mirror. Your partner will be able to help you compose this image.

What kind of mirror do you think the artist has used in the artwork *Hypnagogia with Mirrors, 2023*?