

*It is important to listen to those who seem to have no voice
To listen to the sound of their silence
and get in tune with them.*

Fragment from the RIBOCA2 film:
https://bit.ly/RIBOCALAB_Inclusion



Kultūras ministrija

Rīga
International
Biennial of
Contemporary
Art

LAB



INCLUSION

OBJECT: The work created by Oliver Beer for RIBOCA2 collects objects linked with Latvian poet Aspazija. Unlike what museums normally do, these objects were selected not for their aesthetic attractiveness or cultural significance, but for their acoustic attributes, and the intimate nature of the objects and their link to a locally-known historical figure's private life is a bonus.

CONTEXT: Western modernity organised the world into strict categories, both for art disciplines and for classifying objects. As seen on a formal level, Oliver Beer tries to avoid this in his work, as it fits equally into the fields of both music and art: looking is not more important than listening. Beer's approach to materials continues this idea, freeing the "voiced" vessels from the constructed binaries of soul/no soul, subject/object, alive/not alive. This approach allows us to view Beer's works in the context of animism, a belief which recognises the vital power behind absolutely everything, from manufactured products to natural phenomena.

TASK: Select one everyday **object** you use often.

List at least five **characteristics** describing this object (colour, size, material) or the emotions it provokes (joy, sadness, anger, etc.)

Select one characteristic you particularly wish to highlight. **Change** the object so that your chosen characteristic stands out and is particularly visible. Does the object lose its main function if it is painted a different colour or something is added to it? Does the object become useless or otherwise enhance the surrounding environment?

In pairs, **talk** over your experience in transforming your objects. Think about why you chose your object, how you chose the characteristics and the time you spent with the object while you transformed it.

Practice **active listening**: pay careful attention to what the speaker is saying. Allow them to express themselves, and control your attention: don't just think about how you will reply or what you will ask next. When you have finished listening, describe what you just heard in your own words. Compare your experiences in completing the task, what were the similarities and differences?

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#ethics #society #insight #standards #equality #philosophy

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