



MCAD

MUSEUM OF  
CONTEMPORARY  
ART & DESIGN

DE LA SALLE-  
COLLEGE  
OF SAINT  
BENILDE

pacita

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# a million things to say

12 April - 1 July 2018

Study Guide | High School

## PRE-VISIT

While the underwater world is strange/different to human beings, it is vitally important to life above the surface of the water. For example, most lifeforms have evolved initially from marine habitats. Currently, marine organisms provide a large portion of the oxygen on the planet for human beings breathe. Have the students choose a lifeform or two, and research on whether or not these have evolved from the sea. Have them make a presentation about the evolution.

Introduce (or re-introduce) your students to the technique of collage. Have them use and explore different techniques of collage both old and new. Which of the techniques do they like and why? Arrange all the collage works they have done on a large table and have them discuss which collage techniques worked well are common or which worked best with the subject/s chosen. How does the collage technique support the subject matter and presentation?

## VISIT

- Take a closer look at Pacita's "Underwater Wilderness" series. Consider the following questions and have the students write down their answers.
  - What images can you see in them?
  - Are the works flat or not? Apart from paint, what other materials do you notice on their surfaces?
  - How did Pacita utilize a variety of materials in her works? Were they used to add texture? Were they used to highlight certain parts of the painting? Certain messages or imagery? What textures were created? What parts were highlighted? Why do they think she did this?
  - With these different materials and textures in mind, Ask them to take a few steps back and question what do these materials look like overall? Do they like it? Why or why not? Have they seen anything similar?
- The works also differ in sizes. Have them note the smallest one and the biggest one. Have them notice the placement of these pieces in the gallery. Discuss how the positions can enhance or diminish the scale of the pieces. Why do they think certain pieces are grouped together?

Choose two or three details from one or two artworks on display and ask the students to break down the details' of the color palette. Have them identify which colors are primary colors, secondary colors, tertiary colors, warm and cool colors. What impact, sensations or emotions do each create?

## POST-VISIT

- They can take inspiration from Pacita's works by utilizing her color scheme, her thematics or the processes she used such as adding sequins, shells, beads, and other materials into the work and then ask them to create their own pieces.
- Display the works in a room that may be considered a 'mini-gallery'. Stories which inspired their works can also be hung. Invite other classes to view the works of the students. Have them write about what it feels to have their works displayed and if their mini-exhibition encouraged them to travel not only in the Philippines' beaches but also to the other famous landmarks. Has it also encouraged them to find alternative use for different materials?
- Pacita's Abad Quote: *"'Endless Blues' are paintings that express the feelings I have had over the past two years, as one thing after another confronted me on both a personal and global level. During this period, I turned inward and spent a lot of time in my studio painting and listening to my favorite blues music and this was the best therapy. Endless Blues fuses the mood with the music and my brush pushed these emotions across my canvas. Like the blues, my paintings are always strong, sometimes sad, a bit nostalgic and very colorful."*
- Have the class think of piece of art (paintings, films, literature, etc) that helped them during difficult times. How and when did they come across this piece of art? Why did they think it connected with them? Are they aware of Art Therapy?
- Discuss with the students other ways they can cope or ask for help whenever they feel down. Help raise awareness by letting the students organize a forum about mental health and emotional resilience. They can also come up with an art therapy program wherein their fellow students can create artworks as a means of therapy.