

Gould Gallery (Canopy) - Transcript

The QR code is located at the Gould Gallery entrance.

Digital Wall box text reads: CANOPY: *What are your ethical boundaries?*

Underneath is a digital still image of a person hands writing on an arched shape piece of paper, with a curved base.

Underneath the image, more text reads:

How do we make decisions about what we consider right and wrong? These ethical boundaries may be a way to protect people, but for some the most important thing to do is to stop and listen.

Here you sit beneath the canopy of a data sculpture, shaped by your answers to questions about the future. What does it mean to live an ethical life?

There is a long comfortable bench seat to the left of the entrance of the gallery, and another along the right wall.

Content warning: This exhibit explores human ethics. Parental guidance is recommended for ages below 15 years old. This exhibition is heavily interactive and relies on completing a touch screen survey and viewing others visual responses. If you would like assistance with this experience, please ask for a MODerator.

Credits

- Junior Major **ARTIST**
- Anne Souvertjjs **RESEARCH**
- Belinda Gehlert **COMPOSER, CHAMBER MUSIC ADELAIDE**
- Smiling Mind and NPY Women's Council **MEDITATION**
- Nyunmiti Burton **MEDITATION**
- Ethos Community of Practice UniSA **CONTRIBUTOR**

ABOUT Canopy

What are ethics anyway?

Every group of people around the world have values, beliefs and ways of doing things. These work together to help people to have a "good life," both personally and in their relationships with the community.

What counts as ethical can differ between people and communities.

How do we decide? Ethical reasoning can help us, where we consider what is:

- true, and based on evidence
- relevant to the problem
- fair – that is, takes into consideration the consequences to others.

But who do we mean by others? This could be people that you know, or people in other countries. It could also be other sentient creatures, or the environment. What about others who don't exist yet but will in the future?

What is fair?

Whether something is fair, it is judged against ethical behaviour like kindness, respect, integrity and empathy. It also needs to be judged against concepts of unethical behaviour, like cheating, cruelty or dishonesty.

Ethics are an important thing to consider when we decide as a society.

This includes:

- How science is done (for example, needing informed consent)
- What science is done (for example, making laws around human cloning)
- How science is used (for example, creating robot soldiers).

Ethical questioning has roots in ancient Greek philosophy. Socrates established the method of dialogue to promote thought and reflection on ethical actions. However, this method of ethical questioning is a Western tradition, with [First Nations communities around the world](#) often employing other practises as part of ethical reasoning such as storytelling or deep listening.

For Aboriginal people, this is known as dadirri. Miriam Rose, a Ngan'gityemerri activist, artist, and educator, says that dadirri is a way of life.

"It renews us and brings us peace. It makes us feel whole again... In our Aboriginal way, we learnt to listen from our earliest days. We could not live good and useful lives unless we listened. This was the normal way for us to learn – not by asking questions. We learnt by watching and listening, waiting and then acting. Our people have passed on this way of listening for over 40,000 years..." [1]

To find out more about more information please refer to the MOD website for further reading links.

GALLERY OVERVIEW

Canopy can be found on Level 1 of MOD, in the Gould Gallery. Walking through the double glass doors you enter a large room.

Suspended from the gallery ceiling [\[MR1\]](#) are approximately 20 white, vertical screens. In amongst the white screens are three black screens.

Coloured lights in a green and blue hue, shine on the hanging screens.

Scattered around the room are three small black tables, with three black bean bags.

There is also a larger raised table with four black stools.

All four tables have multicoloured Texta containers and three piles of small cardboard paper resting atop: each card although similar, has a different text prompt in small print on the bottom; draw, write, ask.

The **Draw** card has a smooth, tactile, wavy base – it reads: *Show us what living an ethical life means to you..*

The **Write** card, has a small jagged cut, tactile base reads: *Should doctors be able to prescribe placebo to patients?*

The **Ask** card, has a large jagged cut, tactile base – it reads: *What ethical question is on your mind?*

At the top of each of the three cards is a cut out, hanging circle.

On the far, left wall, are two large 10m x 10m black peg boards, is a plethora of the above reflection cards from previous MOD visitors, who have added their responses to the exhibition content.

In the back corner of the back black wall is white text which reads: *What are your ethical boundaries?*

A MOD pod chair rests in the corner, on the floor before the pod chair is white text in a semi-circle, it reads: *What can we learn when we listen?*

To the left of the pod chair is more wall text, it reads: *Think only of this present moment. Asking questions is one way that we can figure out what is ethical. We can also listen so come take a seat and spend time with this meditation by NYUNMITI Burton.*

Nyunmiti invites us to be present and pay attention to yourself and your surroundings. What do you hear? What do you notice?

You can find more meditations like this from the NPY Women's Council here.

A QR code follows.

Please take a seat in the pod chair and experience a looped audio sound story[\[MR2\]](#)

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Immediately as you enter the gallery room, there is an interactive experience station provided for MOD visitors.

AD - EXHIBIT A

The interactive experience station is a couple of steps into the gallery space.

To your right, lying flat on the station, is a printed square of text: it reads:

Tell us what you think. You are invited to participate in a research study that looks at how people feel about a range of broad ethical issues.

There is no personal information being collected. Participation in this project is completely voluntary. If you agree to participate, you can withdraw from the study at

any time prior to the submission of your responses the data collector will be made Open Access via the universities Open Access data portal. This means other researchers and the public will have access to the raw data.

This project has been granted E2 ethics approval by the Uni SA's human ethics research committee (protocol number 204955).

*Should you have any questions about this study, please feel free to contact Anne Souvertjis via email: Anne.Souvertjis@unisa.edu.au
Use the QR code below to access more details on the research and a full participant information sheet.*

There is a touch screen monitor on top of the station box which reads: *What are your ethical boundaries? Tap to start.*

In this interactive experience station, you will be taken you through a sequence of questions asking you to answer specific questions about your ethical stance on Bodies, Space, Perception and Human Capability.

Once you have completed and submitted your responses via the short survey, the suspended white screens hanging high above you, calculate comparisons of raw data from previous MOD visitors in comparison to the 3 black screens which represent your individual response[MR3] .

This concludes the audio description track for ["Canopy" in the Gould Gallery by Access2Arts for MOD. You will find the next exhibition through a doorway on the far side of the Gould Gallery.](#)