

Lecture Gallery: How do you feel about the future?

“HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FUTURE?” can be found in THE LECTURE GALLERY on the ground floor of MOD.

ABOUT “HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THE FUTURE?”

It might seem cheesy, but when it comes to shaping the future, our capacity for hope is important.

Hope isn't just a wish, it's something we all have in different amounts. It's also something that we can grow. This is called Hope Theory.

To hope, you need to be able to set goals. You need to be able to imagine ways to achieve these goals. You also need to feel agency, or be in control of the actions you take to achieve them. These three factors work together in everything from writing an essay to learning a new skill.

The Lecture Gallery is a dark voluminous space, approximately 9m x 12m with a high ceiling supported by 4 exposed concrete columns, set in from each corner. Two ends of the gallery are curtained with long black velvet drapes. Four large screens are suspended in front of the four walls. They are about 3.5m wide by 2m high.

A 5 min video loop will begin to play shortly. All four screens show the same video, and at the end, the soundtrack will ask you “How do you feel about the future?”

Below each of the screens is a survey station. Each of the survey stations contains a different ‘feeling’ word, so make sure you choose the applicable station for your chosen feeling. A magenta-coloured pentagonal spotlight appears on the floor in front of each of the 4 survey stations following the end of the video.

The four choices you can make will face you in a certain direction.

Face the North screen if you are feeling “Defeated”

The East if you are feeling “Cynical”

South if you are feeling “Optimistic” and

West if you are feeling “Excited”

These words remain on the screen for 45 seconds. The video will restart in 30 seconds.

Access seating:

In the centre of the gallery are two very large round ottomans (cushioned, backless seats) measuring around 150cm across. Several other soft round seats (about 80cm across) are positioned in the corners of the Lecture Gallery. Three are in white leather, and there are also four smaller black cylindrical stools with grey upholstered tops.

2. Film: How do you feel about the future?

The film begins with a Welcome to Country by Kaurua-Narungga-Ngarrindjeri woman Asham Yalupi Owen. The black screen displays Asham’s name and nations in white text.

Then a series of rapidly changing montages begin, the images relate to the voiceover. Fractured magenta and grey images of a city alive with the buzz of life; pedestrians, highways full of hectic traffic, cuts to drone footage of the suburbs, orange tiled house roofs set amongst a network of criss-crossing streets. The title ‘Broken’ is super imposed in acid green text.

A pixellated, fragmented image switches to smoke billowing into the sky from industrial chimneys. MRI images of a human brain and skull, followed by an index finger scrolling over a smart phone library of image icons. Flashes reflect the images off the cornea of an eye in quick succession.

Pictures of devastated cities following bombing, and earthquakes, zooms into a detail of dried cracked mud. Then glitchy images of bushfires and refugee camps, followed by a waste land with bare structures and plastic shredded by the blowing wind.

Images of riot police give way to a spotlight, which sweeps across people huddled in the dark and transitions to images of homeless people sleeping rough, and a concrete wasteland of empty unfinished hi-rises.

Then closeup images of machines in a factory, give way to people walking by quickly, which segues to a busy underground train station. Next, old black and white footage shows a city street, a factory of female workers along a conveyor belt, and a group of men entering the gates of a workplace.

Colour images show a female doctor's room, a female patient sits on the table. Closeup of a typist's hands busy at a typewriter. Then black and white footage of men working in a car factory, anti-war demonstrations, and cannon being fired.

Footage of factories, an open cut mine, and a clear-felled forest is followed by the view of a beautiful evening sky above a tranquil lake, and then an aboriginal flag waves in the wind.

A line of people is shown in silhouette, this cuts to images of people's legs as they walk away. Next, we glance down into a large old style shopping complex, which shifts to people thronging through an upmarket mall.

A premie baby in a hospital crib changes to archival vision of children streaming into school, the interior of a science classroom and then a hospital. Black and white footage shows a woman with a ballot paper entering a voting cubicle. The camera moves to students walking with backpacks, and a closeup of \$20 and \$50 banknotes. A wind farm and a city suburb with green trees and parklands. A glimpse of blue sky between towering buildings, a large two-story house with swimming pool, and a surfer on a beach.

There is a shot of a tower covered with satellite dishes, followed by the swinging arm of a machine in a factory, and a classroom of First Nations students. Bright flashing board lights up at the stock exchange, a broad sweep over a massive solar farm and tower development. A prosthetic hand is succeeded by white gloved hands planting a seedling into the earth. People cross a city street at night, a rainbow striped flag is waved. First Nations women dance on the earth, a black and white plastic robot moves jerkily, a satellite revolves in space.

The film transitions to cracked dry earth, a tidal estuary from the air, lights in a city apartment block, speeded up images of people walking across a mall, payWave with a mobile phone, MRI images of the human brain, endless piles of waste and plastic bottles.

Then walking legs fragment to a night-time view of city buildings and motorways, freeways and underpasses filled with flowing traffic.

The video ends with a timelapse of a large star filled sky that turns behind the silhouette of Uluru.

The screen then fills with a montage of images of MOD. including a voiceover and demonstration of how to use the pentagon token before ending in fragmented images of wetlands, a black sealed road through a desert landscape, and then suburbia.

SURVEY STATION

The survey station in the North reads: I am feeling 'Defeated' and aged between:

The one in the East says: I am feeling 'Cynical' and so on. South is "Optimistic", West "Excited". Select the survey station matching the direction of how you are feeling. Then,

Select the

- A if you are between 0-14 years
- B 15-25
- C 26-40
- D 41-60
- E 61+

Place your Broken pentagon token into the survey slot pointing towards your age range and submit your response.

If you require assistance, please ask a MODerator for support.

To continue to the next gallery, head to the south-west corner opposite where you entered, continue down the hallway, to find the Universal Gallery.

This is the end of the audio description for "How do you feel about the future?".