

Edge City

Elvis Richardson

Worksheet for High School Students

Student Name: _____

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ART GALLERY**

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Edge City
Elvis Richardson
7 March - 31 May 2026

Edge City unfolds in two connected chapters. It begins with a focused survey of recent key works by Elvis Richardson, who examines the built language of settlement and suburbia—its fences, thresholds and protective gestures—highlighting the seductive surfaces and subtle tensions of everyday domestic life. Her works create points of pressure that frame the companion exhibition, positioning the suburb as a site where control meets openness, and aspiration meets constraint.

The companion show brings together local and regional artists to extend this enquiry, viewing suburbia as a shifting edge between city and coast, home and industry. It considers how identity and ambition take shape through place, particularly in Wollongong and other growing regional centres. *Edge City* reflects on how transformation fosters belonging, resilience and creativity within our everyday environments.

Question 1
Conceptual Framework



Image: *Settlement*, 2016 video still, 9 mins. Sound by James Hayes

Read the artwork label and answer the following question.

How does Richardson’s use of found real-estate imagery challenge viewers to consider the relationship between property, class, and identity in contemporary society?

How does Richardson’s long-term process of collecting and archiving online property listings function as a form of performance or time-based art practice?

Question 2

Conceptual Framework



Image: Elvis Richardson, *Settlement #8*, 2025, modified found domestic gate, mild steel, pink blush powdercoat, 200 x 91 x 3 cm. Purchased 2025.

Read the artwork label and answer the following question.

How does Richardson's repositioning of a suburban gate inside the gallery challenge its original purpose as a boundary?

Question 3

Cultural Viewpoint



Image: Garry Jones, *Bound II*, 2002, synthetic polymer paint on canvas, 91.4 x 60.8 cm. Purchased 2002.

Read the artwork label and answer the following question.

How does Garry Jones use the rabbit symbol and layered domestic patterns to express his sense of belonging and cultural identity, especially in relation to Australia's colonial history and his mixed Aboriginal and European heritage.

Question 4
Cultural Viewpoint

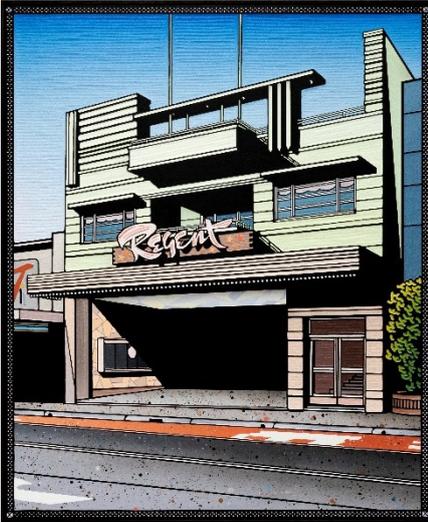


Image: Christopher Zanko, *Regent II*, 2024, acrylic on wood relief carving, 31.8 x 31.8 cm. Purchased 2024

Read the artwork label and answer the following question.

How does Christopher Zanko use carving, composition and architectural fragments in his *Regent I-V* series to explore cultural memory and the enduring impact of the Regent Theatre on the Illawarra community?

Question 5
Drawing Activity

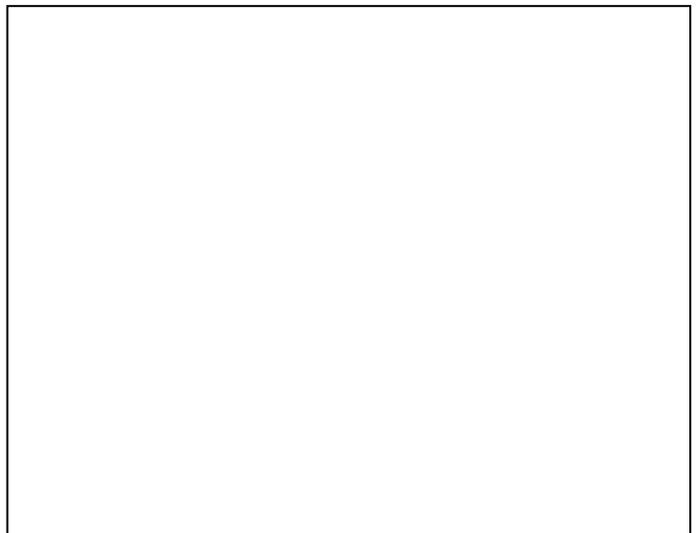


Image: Catherine O'Donnell, *Nikolovski Lawyers*, 2023, charcoal on graphite on paper, 52 x 102 cm. Purchased 2023

Look closely at Catherine O'Donnell's artwork *Nickolovski Lawyers* and choose a section to redraw in the space provided. You may want to enlarge (blow up) a small part of the image. Focus on using line and tone carefully in your study drawing.