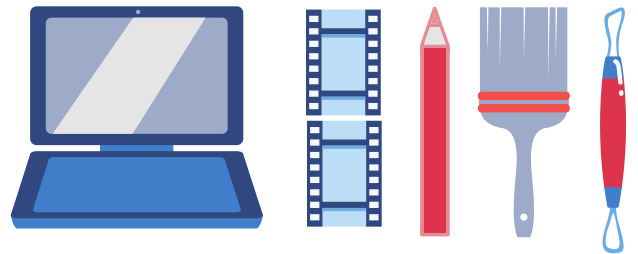# Practice

The practice of artists, art critics and historians includes their intentions, choices, actions, ways of working and processes.

Practice in artmaking

- What are the artist's intentions?
- What conceptual choices has the artist made? What historical or social issues and what political ideas have informed this choice?
- Are personal experiences represented in the work? How?
- What structures and institutions made the artist's work possible? (Consider curators, galleries, collaboration, patrons etc.) How are these represented in the work?

- How does the artist use materials, techniques and technology?
- Consider how processes, procedures or conventions informed the work.
- How has the choice of materials and techniques informed the representation of their ideas?

- Can you use a specific frame or frames to shape your investigation of concepts and layers of meaning in the artwork?

Practice

An art historian explores the influence of a period of time on an artist's practice and seeks to reveal the story of how an artwork or artist came to be valued by others.

An art critic analyses or judges an artist's practice and seeks to understand what an artwork means; they make judgements about the value of the artwork.

Practice in art history / criticism

- How and where have art historians and critics encountered this work?
- What role have art historians and/or critics played in communicating ideas about the work?
- How has the historian/ critic placed this work in a social and historical context?
- What is the significance of the artist? What value have critics, historians and others placed on this artist, both in the artist's own time and since?
- What is the historian or critic's point of view? How can you account for their reasoning or interpretation? Consider the ideas, issues, events and circumstances of the time in which they were writing.
- Is there an interpretive framework (frame) that historians/ critics have employed to develop their interpretation or judgement of an artwork?