

## INSTALLATIONS AND PERFORMANCES

<http://www.tate.org.uk/context-comment/video/tateshots-roman-ondak-measuring-universe>

Go to the website at the top of the page; here you will find a video on an installation at the Tate in St Ives.

**Task 1:** Listen and watch the video; then answer the following questions.

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|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. Is the man talking the artist? Who is he? | 3. What was the starting point? |
| 2. What is the title of the installation?    | 4. How long did it last?        |

5. What was the inspiration for the project?

8. How many names are there?

6. Who was the first person to be measured?

9. What will happen at the end of the installation?

7. What ideas does the installation inspire in the viewers?

**Task 2:** Now listen again and complete the gaps.

(...) *The work started as a \_\_\_\_\_ empty \_\_\_\_\_ room and over the course of the last three months it slowly \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and we now have this extraordinary kind of \_\_\_\_\_, black band with names running all the way around the gallery space.*

(...) he \_\_\_\_\_ his children against the \_\_\_\_\_ and it was that action and that very simple, very universal thing of \_\_\_\_\_ your children as they \_\_\_\_\_ and he decided to expand into this amazing, much more kind of \_\_\_\_\_ and in a way, profound installation.

(...) I think it really does begin to make you think about ideas of \_\_\_\_\_ in the universal and the \_\_\_\_\_ in a really interesting way but it is also very, very \_\_\_\_\_ and this sense of this kind of white void when the exhibition opened being \_\_\_\_\_ built by all of these points, these names and it is almost like a kind of constellation of stars.

(...) When you see the peoples reaction to the work both \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ but also when they get measured, often they are very \_\_\_\_\_ and there is a very nice sense of a kind of \_\_\_\_\_ to the exhibition.

But at the end of the show everything will be \_\_\_\_\_ over and everything will be \_\_\_\_\_ but it will have had this life for this period and before that period will have been a very dynamic growing, living \_\_\_\_\_.

**WRITING FOLDER** : Visit this website (<http://poppies.hrp.org.uk/about-the-installation>) where you will find information about an installation placed outside the Tower of London<sup>1</sup>. Think about the significance of the installation, about the meaning and origin, about the impact it has on the viewer, about the impact it has on you, about the length of the piece, etc. Write a small text in which you outline these ideas; use appropriate tenses and contrasting linking words.

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<sup>1</sup> *Poppies are the flowers that grew in the trenches during the I World War; they soon became a symbol of innocence lost and of the blood of the soldiers. The I World War was the first modern war, fought with new weapons and gases that killed big numbers of soldiers. In Britain, the government encouraged young men to enlist, promising them they would have great adventures and become heroes. In reality, great numbers of young men lied about their age, went to the trenches, and they either died horribly or were deformed by bombs. Many others could never forget the horrors they had seen in the battlefield and returned home traumatised: they had nightmares and many became addicted to drugs and alcohol.*