

Can You Hear Me? Nalini Malani Activity Sheet

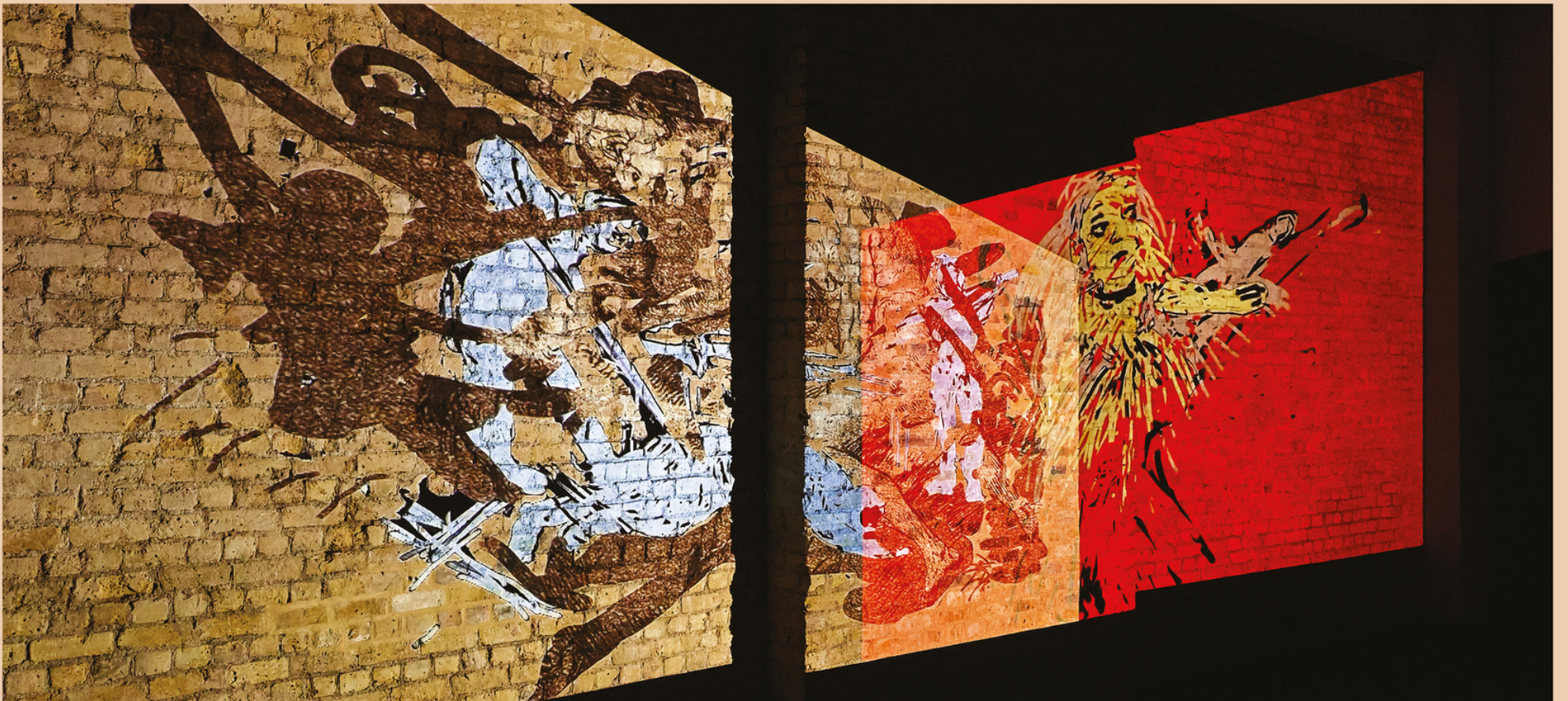
By Jacob V Joyce



Nalini Malani's exhibition *Can You Hear Me?* is about not being heard and the ways that power is used to hurt or control our bodies. Her animations are filled with words but also use bodies and faces to show us ideas and stories. She calls these animations 'Thought Bubbles'.



Just like words and pictures we can use our bodies to speak and share our thoughts. Facial expressions, poses, and the shapes we can make with our bodies are all types of body language. Without speaking try to use your body language to say the following sentences:



**Can you
hear me?**

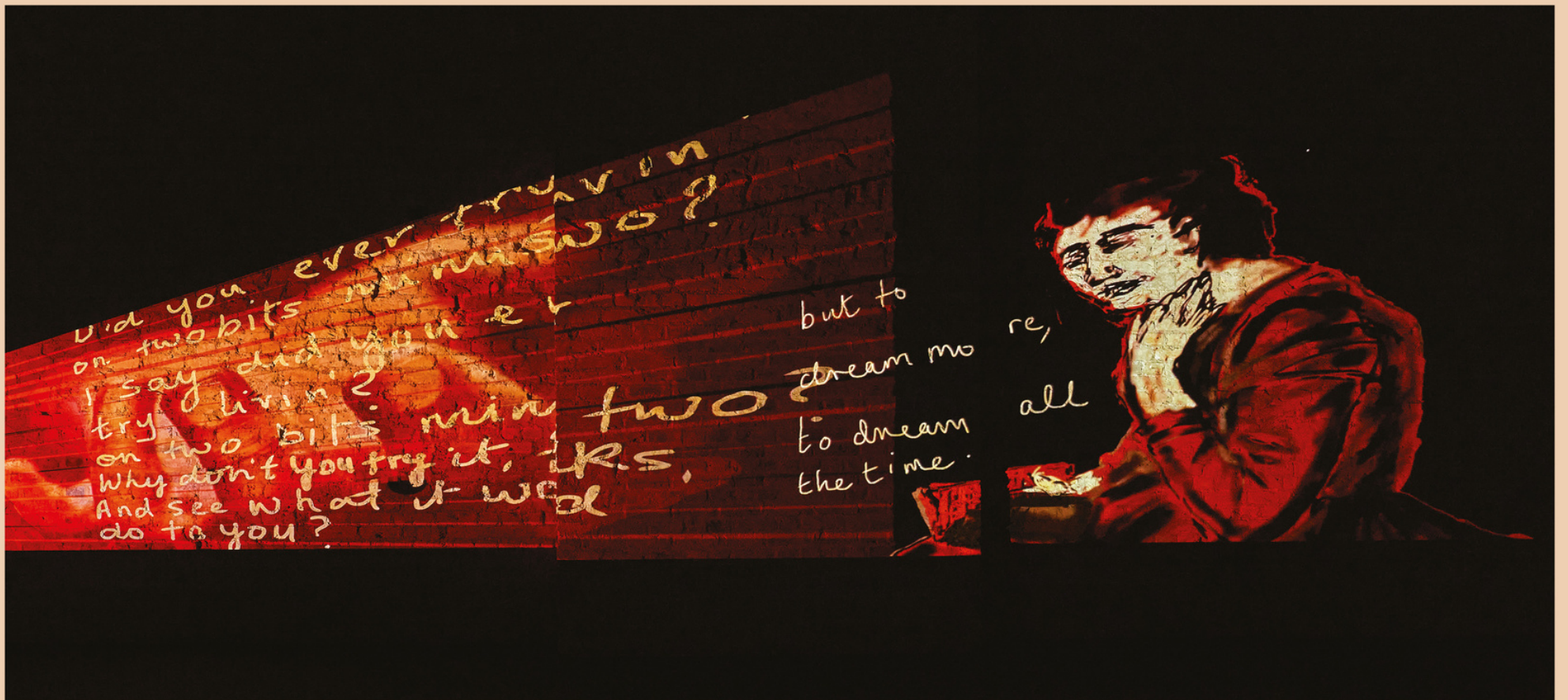
NO!

**My body
belongs
to me!**

**This is
my space!**

Remember to use your hands, posture and facial expression. If you cannot do this then have a go at saying those expressions loudly in whatever way you can.

If you are in the exhibition find three sentences or phrases in Nalini's work and have a group discussion about what they could mean. There are no wrong answers so don't be afraid to disagree with each other, the gallery is a space for each of us to take our own meaning from what we see/hear/feel.



If you are not in the gallery choose from the following sentences (and the word cloud of titles in the next image) and in your group discuss what you each think they could mean, and why Nalini might be saying them.

**Either we all live
in a decent world
or no one does**

Who am I?

**Battling
with
myself**

**There are feminine
regions of the self
that reside in both
men and women**

Where do they all belong Wislawa This is not an Axe
Thinking of Asifa The Red Man A Rose is a Rose is a Rose
Alone at last When the Living can no longer Fight
Waiting for Godot Double Speak I
Frustration **Current Affairs**
I am not Bored Who am I? Metronome
The Circle I Portrait of a Girl I
We clean his Gutters **Double Speak II**
Watch Out Death of Modernism
Annihilation Hieroglyphs of Lohar Chawl Reading Proust Pity the Nation
love me Who can tell me? **Slap Slap** Inspired by Paul Klee
Can you hear meeeeeeeeeee
The Law cannot make a Man Fail Better
People Come and Go The State
Dystopia II The Scream
Portrait of a Girl II Battling with myself
Dystopia I **NO BRAINS!**
Pity the Nation whose Leaders are Bigots
So much I don't know! Love is all we need Our Great Leader
I want
I am not a Skeleton
For the Working Classes