

Emotional Toolbox Workshop

WORKSHOP RESOURCES:

Tutor: Georgina Goodman

Here are a few resources as a starting point for your research – once you start researching you will find your own inspiration. Visiting the library as suggested will allow you to explore the physical tool of a book and the act of searching for inspiration. Think about this ritual of searching, try to avoid endless on-line resources for this exercise. Here are a few to whet your appetite.....I have included library resources at the end.....

"A worker may be the hammer's master, but the hammer still prevails. A tool knows exactly how it is meant to be handled, while the user of the tool can only have an approximate idea."

– Milan Kundera

Author of The Unbearable Lightness of Being 1989

Think about Contemporary Context of tool creation, and how you respond the idea of the emotional connection – this may be in response to a neurodiversity, or health issues as we have seen in many past students work, or you may choose to draw on a cultural reference that resonates with you.

Think about how past MA Fashion Artefact students – you have been shown many examples for creating tools as ritual objects, well-being and body extensions.

Ziyi Li – Healing Tools – MA Fashion Artefact 2024

<https://ualshowcase.arts.ac.uk/project/518753/cover>



Image Via UAL Resources:

Laura Thomas LCF - MA Footwear 2018 - Mark Making and Well-being as a subject focus is shown below:

Footwear student Laura Thomas explored the material Graphite as a mark making medium and footwear covering to create objects that recorded the feeling of movement and freedom:



<https://www.arts.ac.uk/colleges/london-college-of-fashion/stories/lcf-x-lcw-laura-thomas-uses-footwear-in-performance-to-represent-mental-wellbeing>

Image via UAL Resources

Tools that remove marks: are explored by Shiyao Liang – MA Fashion Artefact 2024

<https://ualshowcase.arts.ac.uk/project/520154/cover>

Example in Contemporary art include:

Rebecca Horn who explores the relation of the body and mark making:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c2-cOKs5bIA>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=so1rfLd_OiM

Horn, and other artists work with: Expanding the body through extension tools:

<https://www.e-flux.com/announcements/230235/rebecca-hornbody-fantasiesrebecca-horntheatre-of-metamorphoses/>

Cultural Context of tools with specific function:

We understand human evolution and societal and cultural human interaction through the artefacts left being. Many collectors are fascinated by tools and the narrative through material use and perceived function:

Smith and Singer Auction house:

<https://www.smithandsinger.com.au/list/AU0777/120#>



IMAGES: Smith and Singer website: FROM A PRIVATE COLLECTION, NEW SOUTH WALES

A Collection of Hooks - auctioned in 2013 - \$12,000

Auction Listing: SOLOMON ISLANDS; NEW ZEALAND; TAHITI; NORTH AMERICA 5 Solomon Islands tolling hooks 2 Solomon Islands bonito tolling hooks 3 New Zealand Fish Hooks 3 Tahiti bonito lure 1 Nootka Halibut hook 1 Northwest Coast harpoon head *carved wood, turtle shell, pearl shell, paua shell, bone, cheemane, fibre and beads. 10.6CM (AVERAGE) (15)*

FUNCTIONAL TOOLS: There are some examples of past MA Fashion Artefact students who have used existing tools as a starting point, to explore an emotional connection or new psychological function: You may remember Lexi who created a line-up of Cannibal eating utensils...(I couldn't find a pic)

But found this: example of weird utensils

<https://discover.hubpages.com/food/10-Weird-Eating-Utensils-You-Probably-Never-Used>

THE HISTORY OF TOOLS:

<https://ronixtools.com/en/blog/a-tool-odyssey-history-of-tools-from-prehistory-to-the-present/>

Cont.

THE HISTOY OF TOOLS THROUGH HUMAN DEVELOPMENT:

<https://www.sinotools.com/news/history-of-tools-through-human-development.html>

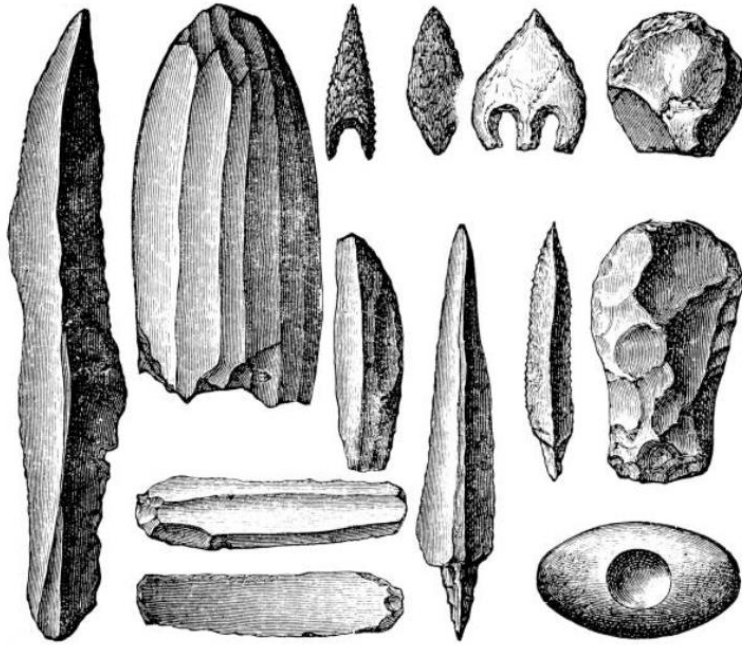


Image: Natural History Museum Archive

TOOLS as ART: THE HECHINGER COLLECTION

<https://www.artsandartists.org/exhibitions/tools-as-art/>



Image from Hechinger Collectio

SPIRITUAL TOOLS:

As a start you may look at the way shamanic tools are used to shift energy and connect to nature – very much influenced the Carrie Wu - Body Shakers – MA Fashion Artefact 2024 -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aN1u9Qggrek&t=13s>

Shamanic Reference:

[https://www.soundtravels.co.uk/p-](https://www.soundtravels.co.uk/p-Evelyn_Rysdyk_A_Spirit_Walkers_Guide_to_Shamanic_Tools-5783.aspx)

[Evelyn_Rysdyk_A_Spirit_Walkers_Guide_to_Shamanic_Tools-5783.aspx](https://www.soundtravels.co.uk/p-Evelyn_Rysdyk_A_Spirit_Walkers_Guide_to_Shamanic_Tools-5783.aspx)

UAL Library Resources:

Reference books: We don't have many tool books in the LCF Library (maybe you will find some in the leather section) – CSM have a few books – BUT there are many cultural references in our library at LCF, so really, it's a case of having a good look through the shelves.....!!!!

I did a quick on-line UAL catalogue Search as well:

Tools:

https://libsearch.arts.ac.uk/cgi-bin/koha/opac-search.pl?limit=&q=tools&limit=&weight_search=1

Shamanism:

https://libsearch.arts.ac.uk/cgi-bin/koha/opac-search.pl?limit=&q=shamanism&limit=&weight_search=1

You may also look at:

V&A catalogue On-line and Met Museum On-line

The Met Museum:

<https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search?searchField=Title&showOnly=highlights%7CwithImage%7CopenAccess&sortBy=Relevance&sortOrder=asc>

V&A - https://collections.vam.ac.uk/search/?page=1&page_size=15&q=spiritual+tools

You may consider the ethical issue of museum collections and the origin of cultural and indigenous artefacts within museums:

<https://www.propublica.org/article/the-met-museum-native-american-collections>