

# **The Whole World in Our Hands: A Sensory Engagement Guide**



The Blackwood

This guide is created by partially Blind artist Olivia Brouwer in response to the artworks in *The Whole World in Our Hands*. Opening new forms of engagement through tactile and multi-sensory experiences, this resource provides additional tools and prompts in Braille and large print for Blind and low-vision visitors, while offering sighted individuals an opportunity to interact with Braille.

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The exhibition sites are available on BlindSquare! To learn more and download the app for free:



# University of Toronto Mississauga Campus Map with Exhibition Sites



- U** Darrin Martin, *Steel Tongue Accordion Ears*
- V** Mikhail Karikis, *I Hear You*
- X** Blackwood Gallery
- Y** e|gallery
- Z1** Abi Palmer, *Abi Palmer Invents the Weather*
- Z2** the vacuum cleaner and collaborators, *For They Let In The Light*
- Z3** Yuki Iiyama, *Old Long Stay*
- Z4** Darrin Martin, *Take Breath is Breath (Breathe)*

U

# **Steel Tongue Accordion Ears**

**Darrin Martin**

Take a seat and listen with your eyes closed to concentrate on the subtleties of each sound. Notice the motion of your breath as the tempo changes. Feel the sounds surrounding your body, however comfortable or uncomfortable they may be. What sounds are replenishing to you and what sounds do you let go of? What sounds will you take away with you?

v

# I Hear You

**Mikhail Karikis**

Choose a nonverbal form of communication that you are comfortable with from Karikis' *I Hear You*. Show care or generosity to the people you are closest to using that form of communication. Pay attention to the sounds created and relationship dynamics from this nonverbal gesture. This can be done publicly or privately.

# Abi Palmer Invents the Weather (Rain)

## Abi Palmer

The ground is a collection of materials that have fallen from the sky. The rain is a catalyst for the scent that develops from these fallen materials. Like Palmer's cats discovering this new interpretation of the weather, how would you describe rain if you heard, smelt, felt, or tasted it for the first time? Go into the woods to immerse yourself in the senses activated by nature (a rainy day would be best). What scents do you notice from the accumulation of natural materials? Describe those scents and any memories that are associated with them.

# For They Let In The Light

## **the vacuum cleaner and collaborators**

Think of a time when you have experienced difficult mental health challenges and the barriers you might have faced. Choose a creative outlet to express that hurt and pain. This could be a dance, poem, letter, drawing, photograph, lyrics to a song, a musical composition, or some other form of art you are drawn to. Be completely honest, holding nothing back. Focus on soothing your mind through this process. Share your creation with someone you trust.

# Old Long Stay

Yuki Iiyama

Using your hands, sculpt and manifest a statement into physical form by creating a small figurine out of materials of your choosing. Let this shape represent an aspect of your identity. When you pass by this location again, place your creation on the ground beneath the lightbox, and, using sign language or whispers, say, **“I hear you, and I am with you,”** as an act of solidarity with the *Zainichi* Koreans who are discriminated against in Japan.



# Take Breath is Breath (Breathe)

**Darrin Martin**

Close your eyes, cover your ears, and feel the air enter your nose and exit your mouth. Think about the role air plays in collaboration with your body. As you move to your next destination, pay attention to the sounds that your body makes in relation to the air and space you are inhabiting. Attune to the sounds that are activated by only you. How do these sounds echo or reverberate in space? What sounds do you identify with in your composed soundscape?