



FLASH FORWARD INCUBATOR PROGRAM - Activity #1
Research

The purpose of this activity is to undertake a personal investigation into the theme *This Land* with the goal of finding inspiration and clarifying your ideas for the work that you would like to complete.

The Theme, along with video and the “Research Links” document in your folder have been created to help you begin.

Optional mini-activity to get you started :)

As a starting point, why not begin with a short brainstorming session around *This Land*. Write everything that comes to mind, and then circle the words that you find most compelling as the starting point for your research and inspiration. There are many different ways to approach this project and we are open to supporting you as you bring your project into reality. Keep thinking about the ideas and elements that are most interesting to you and use those to help further your investigation.

The questions below have been developed to support you in extending and developing your thinking and ideas. Your responses will give us some concrete information to begin facilitating a dialogue with you in the online mentorship component of the program.

#1 - Research:

After conducting your research, who is one of the artists that you connected with the most? How did they shed light on the theme at hand? What did you find surprising? Unexpected? New? Is there something that you would like to know more about?

Please respond with a few sentences.

#2 - Content:

What are some ideas, messages, images or concepts that you would like to communicate or share through your project? For example, do any of the following topics interest you? The environment, animal rights, climate change, ownership, self-determination, power structures, economy, mass media, inequality, identity, spirituality, embodiment, connection, identity?

In a few sentences, please tell us a little bit about the message and or content you see yourself exploring in your project and what it means to you. Please keep in mind that the list provided above is not exhaustive or directive – you do not have to select an approach or topic from the list above. We hope that this list is helpful, and we encourage you to use your own personal messages as the content for your work and are excited to learn about your personal approach this year's theme.

#3 - Genre of photography?

There are many different genres of photography through which you can approach your work. Below is a list of genres that we think might be helpful to use as a base for your work. Landscape photography and Street photography are likely the two genres that relate to the theme most clearly, but you may find that a different genre of photography will more clearly communicate your ideas. You may also want to look at combining two genres together. For example, an abstract landscape.

[Landscape:](#)

Landscape photography is all about capturing the scenic view of those beautiful landscapes.

<https://www.photoblog.com/learn/best-landscape-photographers/>

[Street](#)

Street photography is all about capturing life, emotions, and people on the streets. Below is an article that describes the difference between street photography, photojournalism, architecture and portraiture.

<https://www.photoblog.com/learn/street-photography-ultimate-guide/>

A link to amazing street photographers:

<https://expertphotography.com/famous-street-photographers/>

[Abstract:](#)

Abstract photography is a creative form of expression that lets the photographer communicate his ideas with no established rule of composition or technique. It's often a deconstructed scene where an object is shown in a different concept or context.

[Architecture:](#)

Architecture photography involves capturing images of buildings, structures, and landmarks.

Documentary:

Documentary photographers travel to capture events and build stories with the images. These photographers heavily research a story and capture the images that reflect the context.

Surreal photography:

Surreal photography is a creative way to twist perspectives and realities. It involves creating a scene or a world that is not real but rather a vision of the photographer.

Portrait:

Portrait photography is all about capturing humans and their emotions.

#4 - Process/Aesthetic Considerations/Materials

How might you use the camera and its settings including aperture, ISO and shutter speed impact your image or how you explore the theme? How will lighting, texture, line, shape, form, tone, and space impact your work? Do you enjoy the physical process of artmaking; painting, collage, stitching or drawing? How could you integrate those processes into your digital work?

There are many different ways to approach this project, and we are interested in learning your initial thoughts, ideas and interests. Below are a few guiding questions about defining the artistic process that you would like to undertake for your project.

Please respond to ONE of the questions below with a few sentences. Please keep in mind that photography must be integrated into your work and process.

1. Are you interested in exploring the theme through its aesthetic qualities? Do you see the visual outcome of your work focusing on the elements of art; line, colour, shape, texture, form or repetition to evoke a particular feeling or response? If you selected architecture, surrealist, landscape or abstract from the list above, this might be the direction you would like to take. Please describe your initial thoughts about the materials and/or tools you would like to use in your project and how they relate to your proposed content.
2. Are you interested in exploring the personal, psychological or social impacts of the theme? Are you interested in exploring the role that dreaming has in a creative process? How do you see yourself bringing your thoughts, dreams and research into a visual form? If you selected portrait, landscape, street, or documentary photography from the list above, this might be the direction you

would like to take. Please describe some of your initial thoughts and ideas about the materials, tools or processes that you would like to use in your project?

3. Are you interested in working with physical materials, drawing, painting or collage? How does the use of a variety of materials or layering of materials fit within the theme and the messages you would like to explore?
4. Are you interested in exploring the theme using photography alone? Please describe some of your initial thoughts and ideas about how you will work with the camera, its settings and/or photographic processes in your project and how it relates to your proposed content.
5. Is there a different process that you would like to explore? Or are you looking to combine some of the above-listed approaches in your work? Please describe your initial thoughts and ideas about your project, the materials, tools, and or processes that you would like to use, how you would like to use them, and how they relate to your proposed content.

How do I submit my work?

1. Go to your Incubator Folder. In your folder, create a new document with your full name and the activity you are completing. The easiest way is to open a new document while you are in your incubator folder.
2. Check to be sure that your work is in your folder, and shared with the Incubator Team.
3. And, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us, or include them in your research document!