

Artist Statement  
Louise Hall

My practice focuses on visual imagery, creating a positive change in my own social environment and exploring the juxtaposition between imagery and text. I work with a variety of different mediums, however most of my artwork is created using the mediums of collage, sound and painting.

I run interactive art workshops for the wider community. Workshops are based on the theme of the BAME experience in higher education and focus on the use of collage as a tool to educate. To construct my collages, I use archive material from magazines, books and newspapers. I also use archive text from poets of African and Caribbean descent. I focus on the symposium of text and how to decontextualise it by creating my own narrative using a vast range of text from politicians and historical figures as well as poetry. A strong interest in my work is looking at civil rights activist and the powerful statements they make within their writings and speeches e.g The Transformation of Silence and Language by Audre Lorde.

I work primarily with paper and in books to contextualise where the material was sourced from. The relationship with text and imagery is fundamental to my practice. In the process of creating the artwork, I source imagery and text on injustices and atrocity which have or are happening to people of colour. I then play with different linear and flat experiments to re-contextualising the text in response to the new imagery. Within my practice I focus on race and race relations. I often use current events such as Windrush scandal, Grenfell Tower and political events which affect BAME populations.

My practice also explores research into cultural theories, political movements and art movements. Within my research interests, I focus upon post colonial theory, intersectional feminism, cultural studies, attainment gap within higher education, looking in-depth at Audre Lorde's Theory of Difference and Stuart Hall's paper on Cultural Identity and Diaspora. Within art movements, I explore the Black Arts Movement in Britain in the 1980's and the Harlem Renaissance in America in the 1920's. The intentional theme of questioning when a substantial change will commence within society, is found in each individual piece of work. In my work, I want to achieve change within my environment through my practice.