

dallas contemporary

Let's Practice Inquiry at Home!

Age recommendation: Grade 4-12

Guide an artful discussion with your kiddos using the line of questioning below!

Ask your pupils to spend 2-3 quiet minutes looking at the images of Rahbar's artworks.



Stay



I won't let you go



Bound

Ask those you're leading in discussion: "What do you see?"

What words come to mind when viewing these works of art?

What makes you say that? Why did you choose that word?

Rahbar casts* these sculptures from her own body. When she's feeling a particular emotion or feeling, she casts her body to preserve that feeling forever. She uses a material called bronze. Bronze is a hard metal alloy that consists mostly of copper, nickel, and zinc.

Note to discussion facilitator: Do you have any hard metal objects that you can handle together?

Let's make a list of all the ways that bronze and our skin and flesh are different from each other:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

So considering these differences, why might the artist have chosen to use bronze instead of a softer material?

Rahbar has said in the past, "I love strong things." She's able to find peace and comfort in making these sculptures of herself into something virtually indestructible.

Many have said that with the creation of every piece, the artist begins to know herself more deeply. How well do you know your body? How does your body respond to your different emotional states?

Use this space to draw pictures your hands when you feel the emotions listed below.		
HAPPY	SAD	EXCITED
SCARED	PROUD	CALM

Take another look at the artworks. How many people do you think are represented in each one?

I won't let you go:

Stay:

Bound:

How are these people interacting with each other?

Final question: In what ways are people stronger when acting together?

*Casting involves making a mould and then pouring a liquid material, such as molten metal, plastic, rubber or fibreglass into the mould. A cast is a form made by this process. Many sculptures are produced by the artist modelling a form (normally in clay, wax or plaster). This is then used to create a mould to cast from.

Artwork: Sara Rahbar, Selected Works from Rahbar's series titled *Confessions*, 2014-2016. These artworks are from an exhibition titled *Carry Me Home*.

Lesson created by Angela Hall