

MISE-EN-SCÈNE

WHAT IS MISE-EN-SCÈNE?

Mise-en-scène is French for “placing on stage.” Try saying it out loud like this—“meez + on + sen.”

Mise-en-scène is the theme that connects these four exhibitions at the Arts Center:

Collective Consciousness: Mark Baum

Visionary Reality Outpost: Saya Woolfalk

B-side of the Moon: Scott Reeder

The Autotopographers

A stage set for a play helps show the audience where the story takes place. As you explore these exhibitions, think about how the things you see help you understand the story the artist is telling.

FOCUS ON *THE AUTOTOPOGRAPHERS*

An autotopography is a representation of someone’s identity through objects and places.

Discuss your autotopography:

- What is a place that is important to you? What memories do you have about that place?
- Do you have a special object that you carry with you, like a piece of jewelry, or that you display somewhere special in your home?

MISE-EN-SCÈNE

WORDS TO KNOW

Courage: To be brave. To be able to do something that scares you.

Justice: To be fair. To make sure that everyone has an equal part.

Prudence: To be careful. To think about how your actions impact others.

Temperance: To control your thoughts and actions.

Virtue: A good action or behavior. Can also be a characteristic of a person. For example, “She is a firefighter; she is very courageous!”

Visionary: Planning for the future with your imagination.

Reality: How things actually are or exist.

Outpost: A place that is separate from a country, a business, or a group of people.

FOCUS ON *VISIONARY REALITY OUTPOST:* *SAYA WOOLFALK*

Saya Woolfalk invites visitors to be a part of her exhibition. The Visionary Reality Outpost is a place from a story Saya tells in her artwork. The characters in the story are called The Empathics. They are an imaginary race that is part human and part plant. In the Visionary Reality Outpost, the Empathics want you to think about how to create a better future.

In the Outpost, you choose a card with an image of one of the four **virtues: Courage, Justice, Prudence, or Temperance**. On the back of the card is a secondary word that you can use to focus on how the virtue can help you be a good person and create a better future. For example, if the front of the card says “courage” and the back of the card says “new beginnings,” you would think about how to create a “courageous new beginning.”