

# Do Not Defend The Centre

introduced by Dawn Evans

This creative evening will explore how we might encourage “porous thinking” and move away from a central image, to create alternative lines of enquiry in our individual and collective practice. Kentridge uses the phrase “DO NOT DEFEND THE CENTRE” we will adopt this phrase as our approach for the evening.

Kentridge argues that Peripheral Thinking opens up the possibilities of resisting any need to make a coherent argument at the onset of any artistic project by:

- Being surrounded/influenced by "things" at the edges.
- Allowing peripheral images, thoughts, histories, memories to migrate towards the centre.
- Being open to explore the value in what is extraneous.
- Experimenting with how the centre can be defined by the periphery.
- Exploring the act of seeing as a negotiation between that which comes towards us and that which we project onto it.
- How the narrative of works and theories evolve through multiple encounters, interactions, and responses.
- Understanding how a multiplicity of perspectives contributes to the evolution of ideas.
- Exploring the act of seeing/making as a negotiation between what we pay attention to and what we discard.

Watch this: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79FuROwzRvs>

Artist William Kentridge explains how he uses methods of “peripheral thinking” to enrich and develop his work.

## **Bring:**

one or more images related to the theme or your practice

Paper lined or plain,

Pens & drawing tools.

Refreshments and things to nibble on.