

# Larissa Sansour

## *In the future they ate from the finest porcelain*

### Film

### 2017



Larissa Sansour is a Palestinian artist who currently lives in London. She uses video, photography and installations in her art, and often uses ideas taken from science fiction to explore important social issues.

In this exhibition at Bluecoat, Sansour explored science fiction, archaeology and politics, using film, ceramics and sculpture. The film looks at myth in history and feelings of national identity. In it, resistance fighters bury objects in the ground – porcelain pottery - to make it appear that an imaginary group of people lived in a certain place. They have

done this in an attempt to influence history, and change how people in the future will think about the past. They want to convince them that their made-up civilisation really existed.

### **THINK ABOUT**

- Is it easy to understand this art work?
- Do you like this art work, and why?

### **TALK ABOUT**

- Can you think of other art works that tell imaginary stories in this way?
- Have you ever seen art work like this before?
- What is the difference between a video art work and a television show?

### **FIND OUT ABOUT**

- How do we find out about the lives of people in the past?
- What might people think about us in the future?

### **Activity**

Larissa Sansour's film, *In the future they ate from the finest porcelain*, tells the story of a group of people from an imaginary civilisation burying decorative pottery called porcelain. They have done this in an attempt to influence history, and change how people in the future will think about the past. They want to convince them that their made-up civilisation really existed. As they are burying these pieces of pottery in the present, they are creating a myth – a story - of a nation for the future.

In this activity, you will be creating your own time capsule for future generations to find. There are two ways to do this. You can either:

1 Make a traditional time capsule which would show people what life was really like in Liverpool today, or

2 Create a time capsule which shows a false history and impression of Liverpool in 2017.

### **Learning aims and outcomes**

The children will:

- learn about different artistic movements
  - learn about different types of thinking
  - learn about the lives of people in the past
  - use their own thoughts, feelings and ideas
  - be able to discuss their ideas in a group
  - be able to develop their art and craft skills

