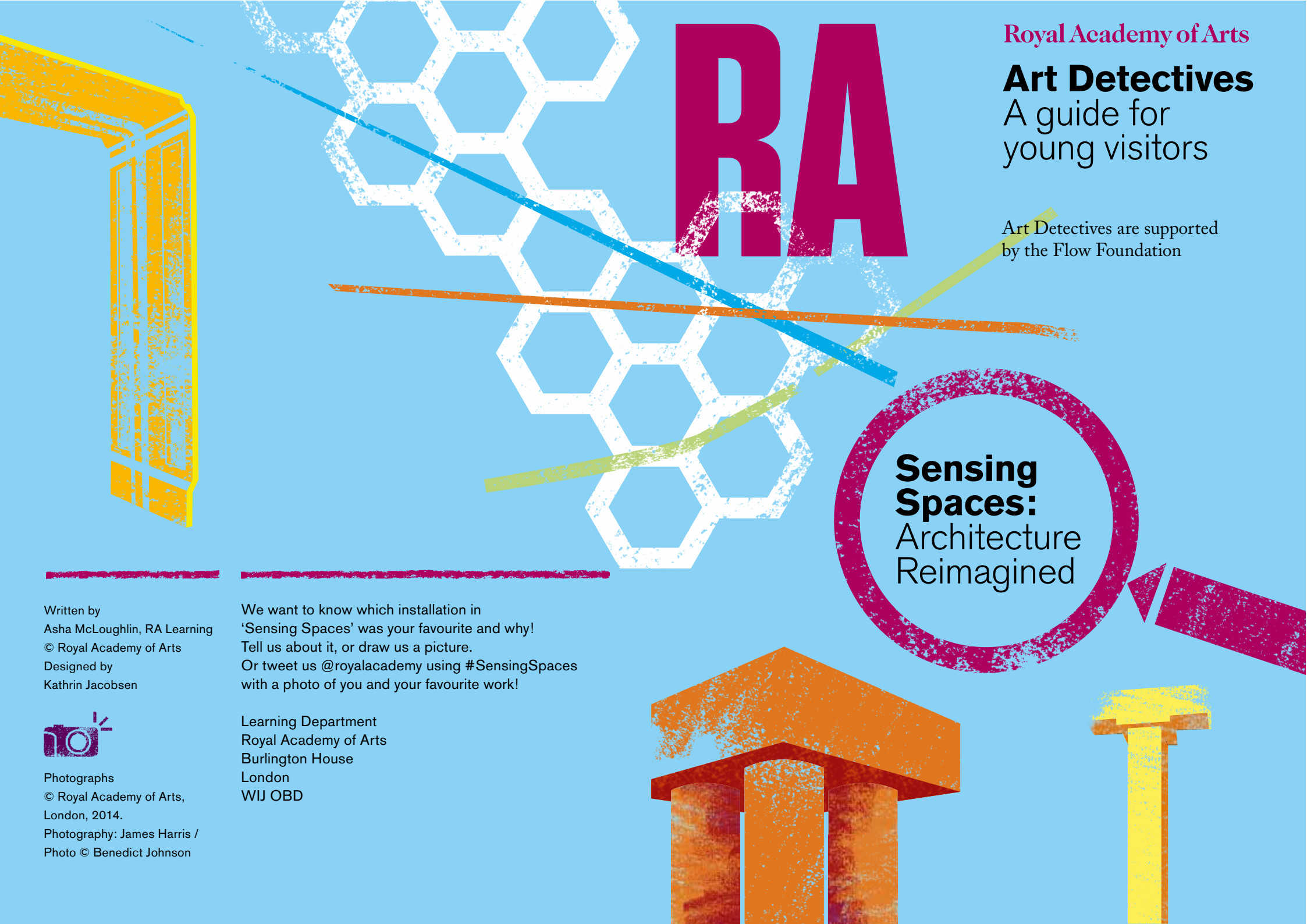




Royal Academy of Arts

Art Detectives

A guide for young visitors

Art Detectives are supported by the Flow Foundation

Sensing Spaces:
Architecture Reimagined

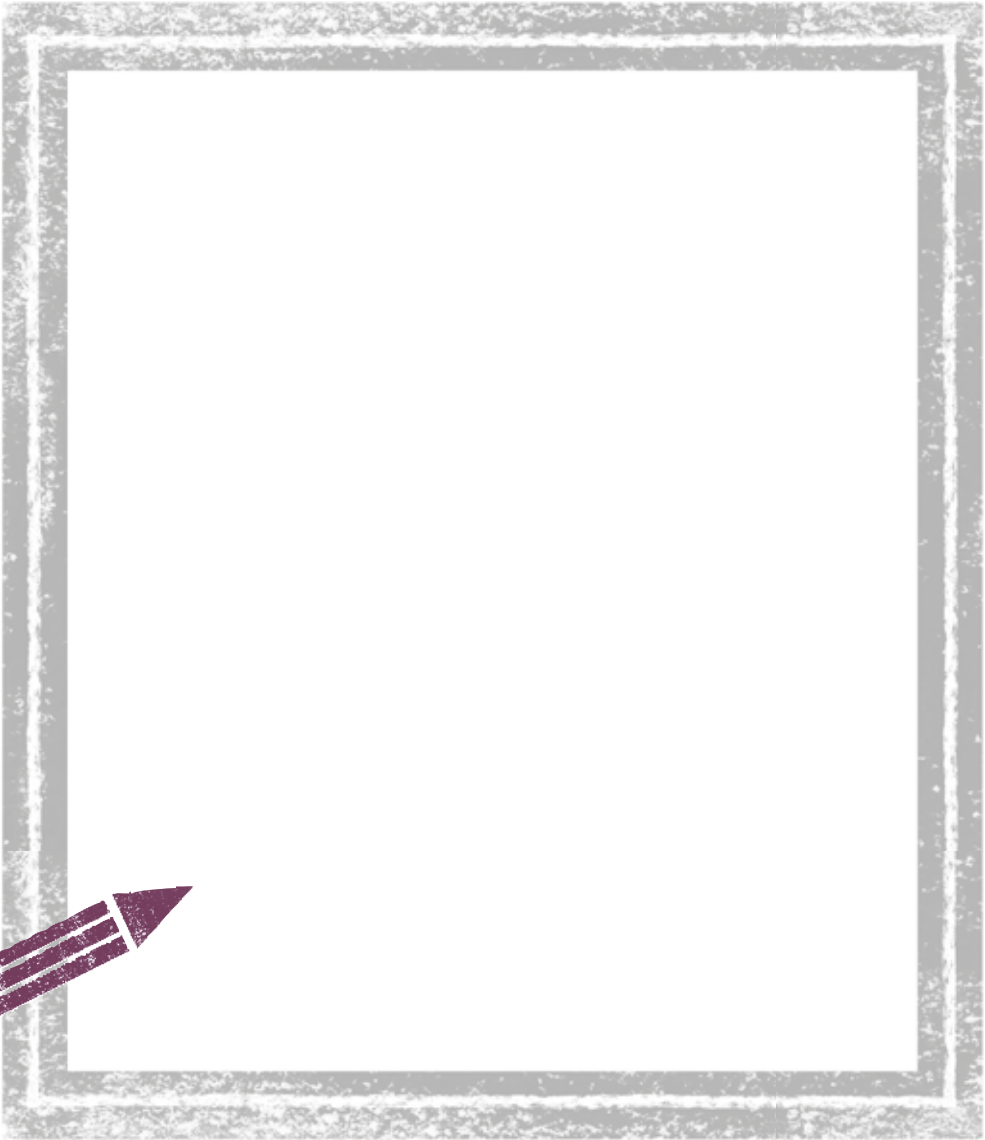
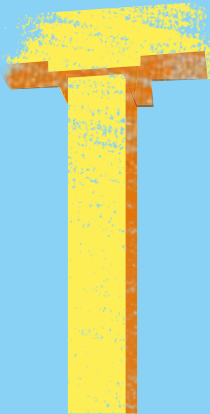
Written by
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Designed by
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We want to know which installation in
'Sensing Spaces' was your favourite and why!
Tell us about it, or draw us a picture.
Or tweet us @royalacademy using #SensingSpaces
with a photo of you and your favourite work!

Learning Department
Royal Academy of Arts
Burlington House
London
WIJ OBD



Once you have had a good look around,
draw your favourite installation,
or design your own!

Introduction

How do spaces make us feel?

The exhibition you are about to explore is very different to anything you might have seen before, here at the Royal Academy or anywhere else. Normally in a gallery, you are only asked to use your eyes to look at a picture or a sculpture, and usually, you are not allowed to touch anything. These are not the rules in 'Sensing Spaces: Architecture Reimagined'. In fact, it's the opposite! We want you to touch, climb, stare, listen, and even smell as you interact with the installations. Use all your senses and be aware of everything around you as you enter and linger in the galleries...

'Sensing Spaces: Architecture Reimagined' sees the RA transformed by installations created by seven architectural practices from around the world. Their aim is to give us a fresh perspective on architecture.

There is no 'right' route around 'Sensing Spaces', but here is a map in case you get lost!

Section 4.

Diébédó Francis Kéré

This curvy, cave-like space is made of a plastic honeycomb material that will change throughout the exhibition...

What does the shape of this structure remind you of?

Look at the installation from the outside, and then enter it. Do you feel different? How?

How many straws do you think are threaded in this structure?

Have you threaded a straw? Which colour did you use? Why?



Section 1.

Pezo von Ellrichshausen

This enormous wooden structure is 60 metres tall, and takes us up to a world we never see – the ceiling of the galleries!

Looking up at this

installation from the ground, how does it make you feel? You can even lie down on the floor under it!

Can you spot the gold-leaf ceiling details up here? How many angels can you find? Can you see what they are holding in their hands? Use the peepholes!

If you came up using the stairs, go down using the ramp, and see if it is a different experience.

Climb up the wooden staircase. At the top of the platform, what can you see?



Section 3. Eduardo Souto de Moura

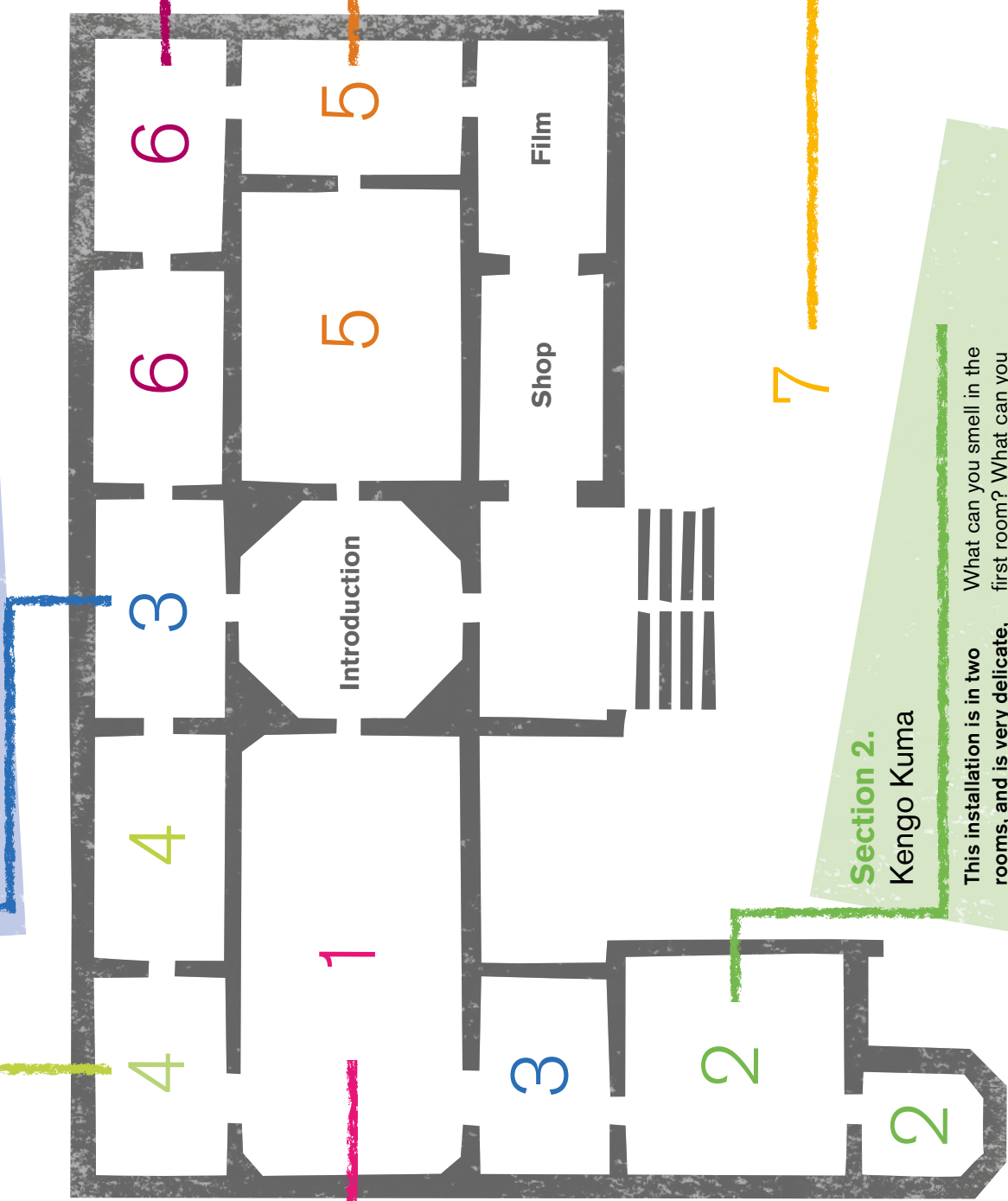
(features twice on map)

This architect has chosen to focus on doorways rather than spaces for his installation.

Do these doorways seem bigger or smaller to you when reproduced as freestanding sculptures?

What do you think they are made of?

Unlike a normal doorway, as well as walking through it you can also walk around it! What do you notice walking around the door frame?



Section 2.

Kengo Kuma

This installation is in two rooms, and is very delicate, so we ask that you don't touch this one! Breathe it in instead...

What can you smell in the first room? What can you smell in the second room? Are they different?

Do you think that the darkness in this room makes you aware of your other senses? Which ones in particular?

What is your first reaction as you enter this room?

What shapes can you see in the bamboo?



Section 6.

Li Xiadong

This architect described his vision for this space as 'like a walk through a forest in the snow at night'.

What materials has the architect used in this installation?

Can you find the secret stone garden? How does it make you feel?

What was the first thing you noticed in this installation?

Can you find the hidden spaces? Why do you think the architect has created these?



Section 5. Grafton Architects

In order to fully experience this installation, you have to stay in each room for about 10 minutes to notice the changes in light.

Which direction do you feel yourself looking in as you enter the first room?

Do you feel different in the first room compared to the second room? Do you feel scared by either room? Why?

How do the changing levels of light affect how you feel? Do you feel like walking around or sitting still?

Do the structures above you look heavy or light? What do you think they are made of?

Section 7. Álvaro Siza

(In the RA Courtyard)

This architect was inspired by a flash of colour from a passing bus to make his structures bright yellow!

Did you notice these structures as you came into the Academy? What did you think of them? What do you think of them now?

Looking back at the Royal Academy, can you spot the columns that inspired this installation?

Is it more difficult to understand these structures outside of the main galleries?