

Title: ssshhhh

Project description: A family speaks about something meaningful.

Sophie:

What will happen is that twenty different families will speak together, in private, about something which is meaningful to them. It may also be something which is difficult for them to talk about, has been avoided, or is simply something special to them. The content and level of meaningfulness will be up to them.

When I arrive in December (exact date still to be determined) I would like to meet with the twenty families (perhaps it's easier in the museum all at once) to explain the idea, describe some of my past work, answer any questions that they might have, and thank them for participating. It's fine if only one representative of each family can come to the meeting.

For each family a print will be made and given to the family. These twenty different prints will be blank except for an engraving of the family's name and the title of the project. The color of the print and its size will be determined by the space and desire of the family.

The print will not reveal anything regarding the nature and content of each family's conversation. In this way the families' conversations can remain private and something to be held and shared amongst themselves. Instead of a typical voyeuristic interest in the exhibition space, viewers to the museum will be asked to simply appreciate that some families had some conversations about something meaningful. By being quiet the print acknowledges the limitations of transposing an action, such as a domestic conversation, from one value structure into another: in this case from a home life to the art world.

Equally, perhaps, the print will become a family *aide-mémoire* for a conversation once had.