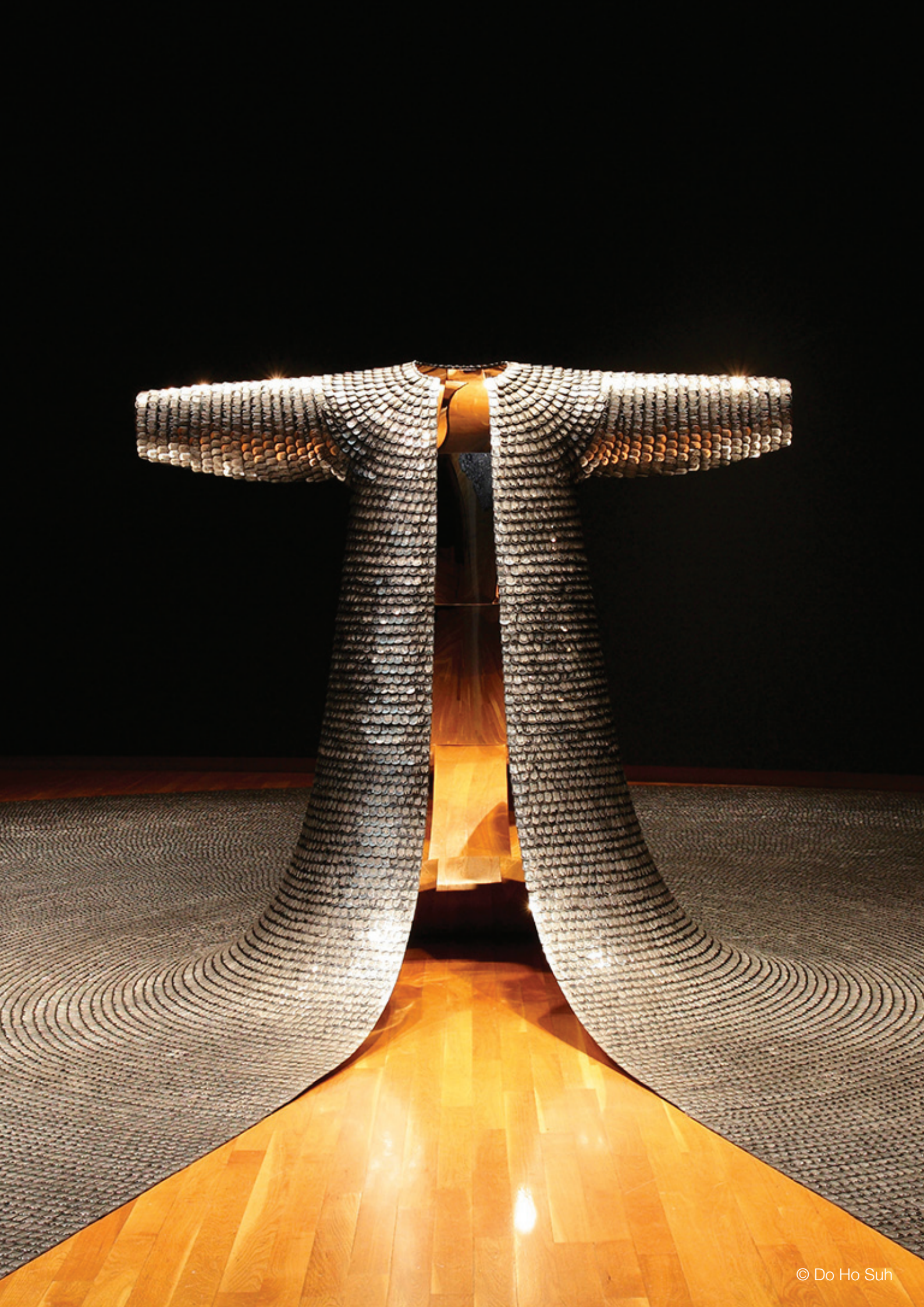


10

Title Some/One
Artist Do Ho Suh





10

Title **Some/One**

Artist **Do Ho Suh**

Some/One is made of thousands of metal 'dog tags' – identity tags worn by soldiers around the world. They are joined together to make a long, flowing robe. As the viewer, you have to walk across the dog tags to get round to the front of the robe. The robe is open at the front and has a mirrored lining, so you can see yourself inside it, making you feel a part of the piece.



Some/One, 2001

Stainless steel military dog tags, nickel-plated copper sheets, steel structure, glass fiber reinforced resin, rubber sheets

Figure: 81 x 126 inches diameter; overall dimensions: 85 1/2 x 281 1/2 x 356 inches

© Do Ho Suh

Questions for discussion (with possible responses)

- **Who can you imagine wearing this robe?**
- **What would it feel and sound like to walk across the robe spread out across the floor?**
- **Why has the artist made the inside like a mirror?** So you can see yourself in the mirror and it looks a bit like you're wearing the robe.
- **What does this piece make you think of?** Fish scales, an emperor, armour.
- **Why has the artist called this piece **Some/One** rather than **Someone**?** He is playing with words to make us think about individuals and groups (like *Who Am We?*) The dog tags represent lots of people but the robe is just one person.
- **Is this a portrait?** Yes, or no – there is no-one in the robe.
- **What one word would you use to describe this piece?** Mysterious, beautiful, scary.

Developing the discussion through the performing arts

KS1 Music Metal Music

Some/One is made of several types of metal (as well as other materials). For this activity the children will start by sorting the musical instruments that are made of metal and those that aren't. They are going to use the metal ones – cymbals, triangle, glockenspiels, chime bars, agogo bells etc.

Divide the children into three groups. Group 1 will create a musical motif to describe the robe (or the figure wearing it). Group 2 will create a motif to describe a person (or people)

walking across the dog tag covered ground. Group 3 will create a motif to describe the moment the person discovers the opening at the front of the robe – shining, reflecting and radiating light.

Each group should start by discussing the quality of their section and how this might be represented musically. Should it be loud or quiet? Fast or slow? Brave or scared?

Share the three sections in sequence.

KS2 Drama Who is Some/One?

The children are going to work in small groups to explore the character of Some/One. First of all they need to decide who s/he is – age, status, confidence, etc. Then the other people need to position themselves around her/him. Who are they? What are they doing and how do they feel about Some/One? They will create a tableau (a still, silent picture using their bodies) that gives as much of this information as possible.

Share these tableaux between the groups and ask the audience to suggest what might happen next if the tableau was brought to life. Using some of these suggestions, each group now turns their tableau into a short scene with a beginning, middle and end. Share these scenes.

Suggested links to the core curriculum

- **Science KS1** Materials: this piece is made of several different types of metal. Find objects made of metal around the classroom.
- **Science KS2** Materials: this piece is made of several different types of metal (see description). Which of these are magnetic?
- **English KS1** Spelling: prefixes. Collect words that start with some, e.g. someone, something, somebody, sometime, somewhere.
- **English KS2** Writing: write up the drama scene as a short story.
- **Maths KS1** Measurement: draw out the dimensions of this piece on the playground using chalk and tape measures (approx. 700 cm x 890 cm).
- **Maths KS2** Measurement: calculate the approximate number of dog tags needed to cover a given area. NB the children will have to research the size of dog tags.