TEXTA Book Club in the QUT Art Museum

Penny Holliday and Elizabeth Ellison

TEXTA: the bespoke model

The grass roots book club

The bookseller book club

The celebrity book club

The online book club

The educational book club

Images with Blake in the file path
Installation view of *The 60th Blake Prize* at QUT Art Museum
Photo: Richard Stringer

TEXTA

- A book club run in conjunction with an art gallery exhibition at the QUT Art Museum.

- Facilitators select texts thematically linked to exhibitions.

- Participants and facilitators are guided through the exhibition by the QUT Art Museum curator and then engage in discussion

TEXTA is no ordinary book club. It is for people who love to read art (or would like to learn how). Each book is carefully selected to complement an exhibition at QUT Art Museum.

Ceci n'est pas une **TEXTA**

Thirdspace

Firstspace: the *spaces* of engagement (book shop, museum, nursery)

Secondspace: *artefacts* of engagement (texts, exhibitions, catalogues, book notes)

Thirdspace: the '*lived*' engagement – the 'bespoke' book club that combines both the *spaces* and *artefacts* of engagement along with the participants, facilitators, ideas, opinions, experiences and conversations to generate new, complex readings of texts.
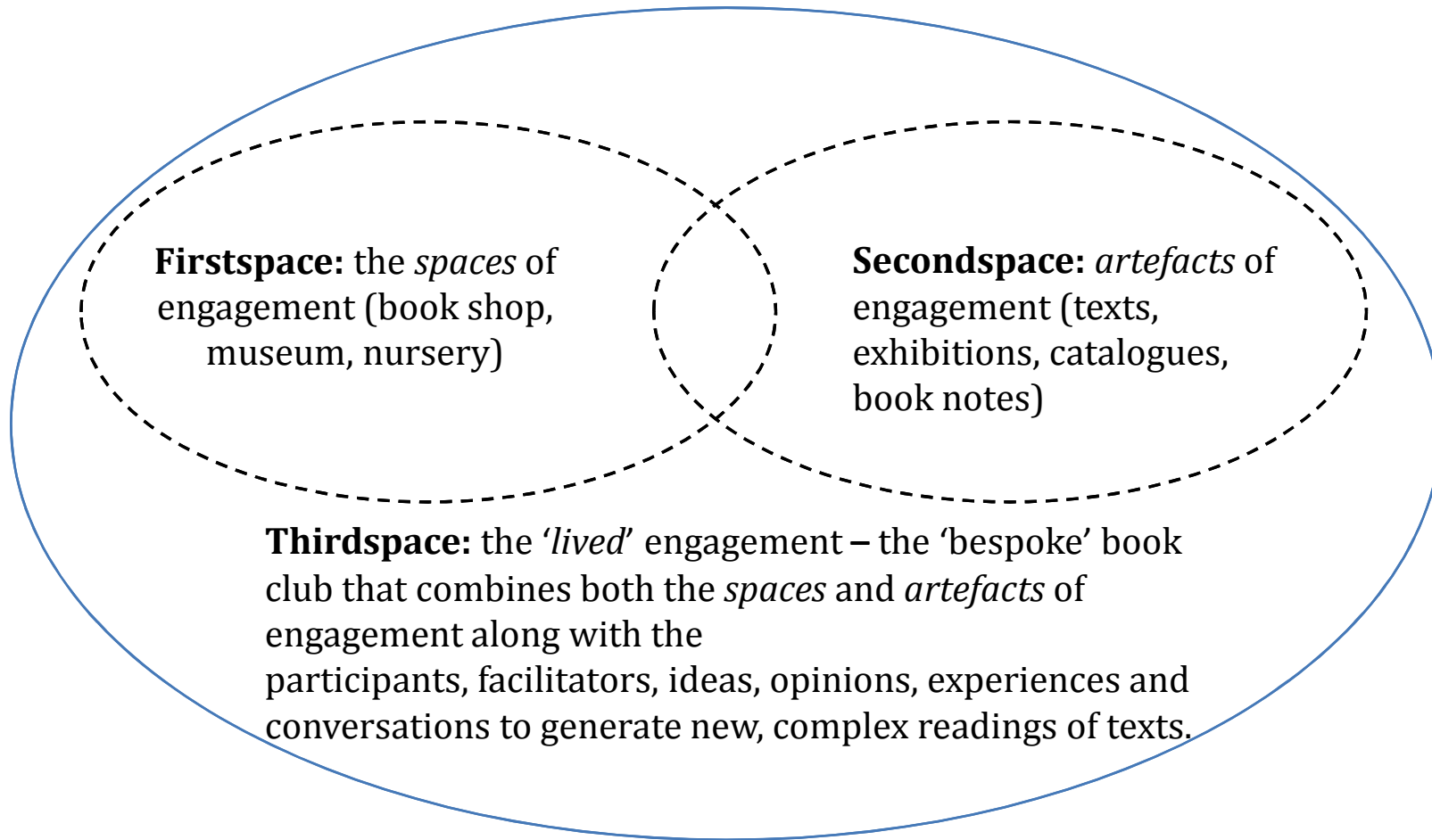
Figure 1: The Thirdspace book club. This diagram, developed using Soja's framework, shows the way the First, Second, and Thirdspaces overlap and interweave. Whereas the First and Secondspace can exist separately, the Thirdspace encompasses both and more than the sum of its parts.

Old Government House, QUT Gardens Point

Photo by Dianne Hausler
http://www.panoramio.com/photo/42767640
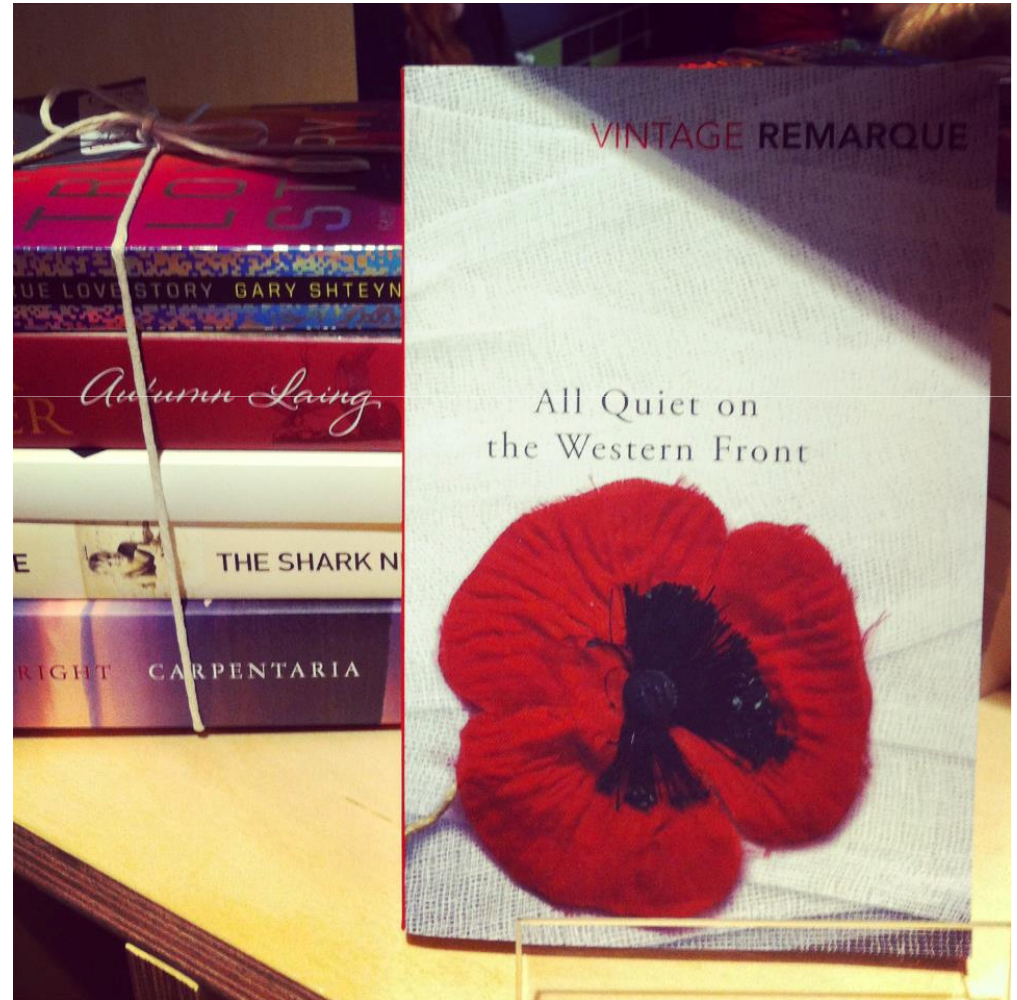
Bookshop
QUT Gardens Point

All Quiet On The Western Front

- Case Study 1:

All Quiet on the Western Front (Erich Remarque) was read alongside Shaun Gladwell's *Afghanistan* exhibition in February, 2013.

Shaun GLADWELL
BPOV MEAO (Behind Point of View, Middle East Area of Operations) 2009-10
digital colour photograph
Collection: Australian War Memorial P10015.004

Installation view of Shaun Gladwell: Afghanistan
Photo: Richard Stringer
http://www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au/exhibit/2013/gladwell.jsp

Installation view of *Foundation's edge: artists and technology*
Photo: Richard Stringer
http://www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au/exhibit/2013/foundations.jsp

Installation view of Foundation's edge: artists and technology
Photo: Richard Stringer
http://www.artmuseum.qut.edu.au/exhibit/2013/foundations.jsp

Super Sad True Love Story

- Case Study 2:

Super Sad True Love Story (by Gary Shteyngart) was read alongside the *Foundation's Edge: Artists and Technology* exhibition (showcasing multiple artists) in May 2013.

Where to now?

Can TEXTA extend beyond Brisbane into regional areas?