Nalini Malani’s exhibition Can You Hear Me? is about not being heard and the ways that power is used to hurt or control our bodies. Her animations are filled with words but also use bodies and faces to show us ideas and stories. She calls these animations ‘Thought Bubbles’.
Just like words and pictures we can use our bodies to speak and share our thoughts. Facial expressions, poses, and the shapes we can make with our bodies are all types of body language. Without speaking try to use your body language to say the following sentences:
Can you hear me? No!

My body belongs to me! This is my space!

Remember to use your hands, posture and facial expression. If you cannot do this then have a go at saying those expressions loudly in whatever way you can.
If you are in the exhibition find three sentences or phrases in Nalini’s work and have a group discussion about what they could mean. There are no wrong answers so don’t be afraid to disagree with each other, the gallery is a space for each of us to take our own meaning from what we see/hear/feel.
If you are not in the gallery choose from the following sentences (and the word cloud of titles in the next image) and in your group discuss what you each think they could mean, and why Nalini might be saying them.

Either we all live in a decent world or no one does  

Who am I?

Battling with myself

There are feminine regions of the self that reside in both men and women.
Current Affairs

Love me

Slap Slap

Can you hear meeeeeeeeee

Fail Better

The Law cannot make a Man

People Come and Go

The Scream

The State

Battling with myself

Pity the Nation whose Leaders are Bigots

So much I don’t know!

Love is all we need

I want

I am not a Skeleton

For the Working Classes