

Exhibition artwork
IBDP Visual arts 2021

**STOCKHOLM
INTERNATIONAL
SCHOOL**

Table of Contents

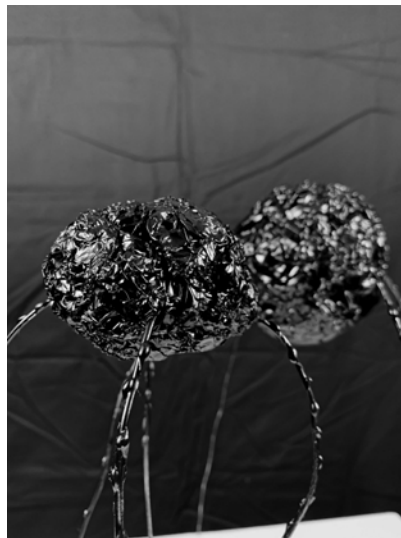
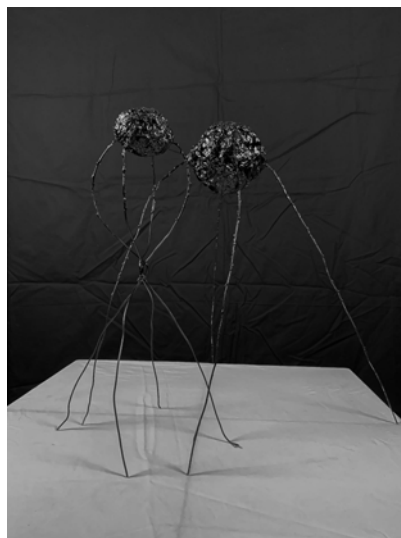
Sofia Bjurholm.....	3
Samantha Dunn.....	11
Filippa Johnsson.....	17
Alma Leksell.....	26
Alice Leonardos Tabajara.....	31
Pauline Leroi.....	38
Yumi Liberman.....	46
Emelie Lustig.....	54
Antonia Nobel.....	58
Lauren Palega.....	65
Anna Sjöholm.....	73

Sofia Bjurholm

Overview



Artwork 1



Creeping Creatures (February 2021)

Wire, tin foil, spray and acrylic paint (mixed medium)

43 tall and 42 tall (2 sculptures)

This is an abstract piece that explores various perspectives of what “inner conflicts” entail. The aim is for these creatures to represent the entirety of negativity that a person phantom Black is purposely chosen to depict the density of this negativity. I worked with the appearance of unbalance to illustrate that, despite the carrying capacity exceeding what the body of these creatures can hold, they maintain. This expresses the ongoing battle that we tend to have with our inner conflicts.

Artwork 2



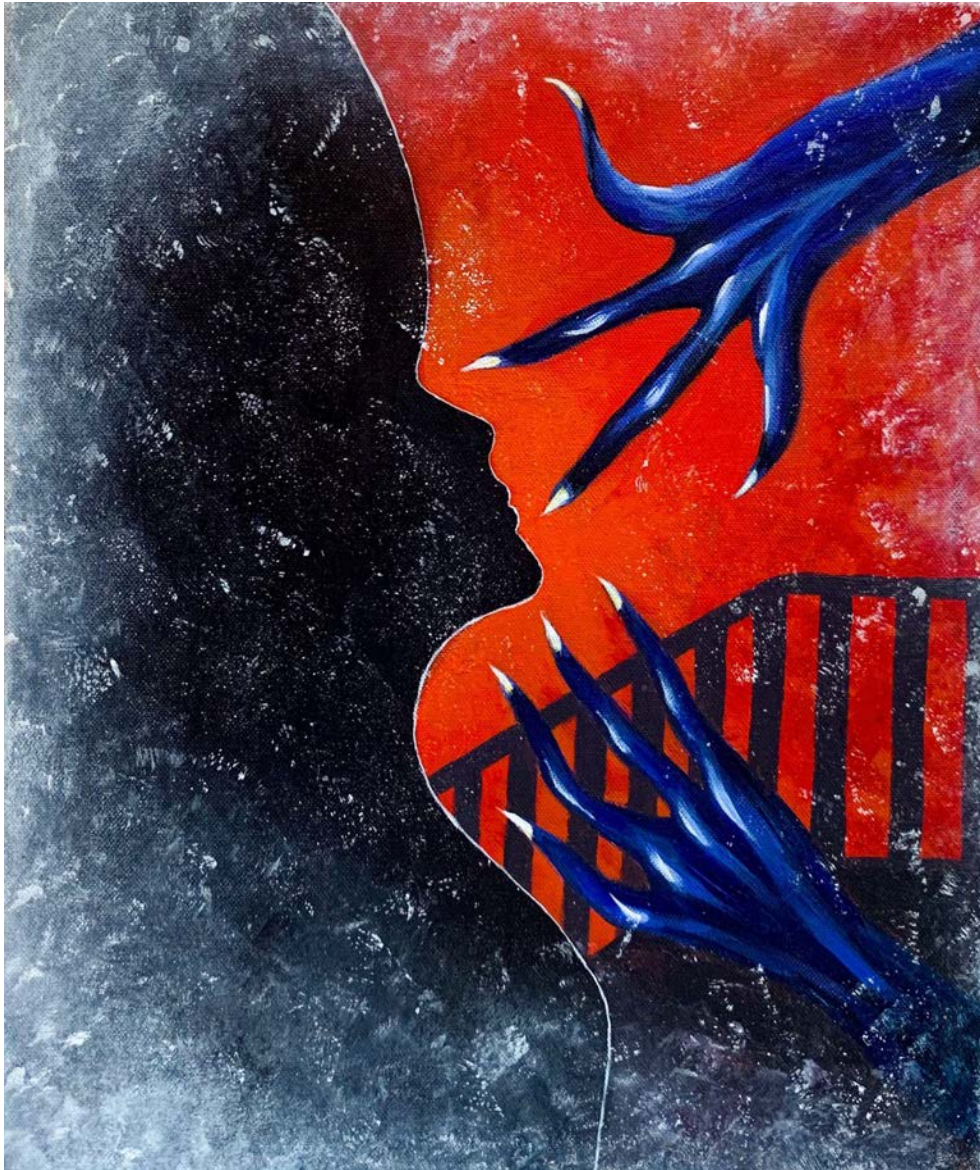
Saturn Caught Devouring His Son (December 2020)

Oil on canvas

36cm x 46cm

Inspired by Francisco Goya's, *Saturn Devouring His Son*, and Peter Paul Rubens', *Saturn*, based on the same Roman myth of Saturn, the God of agriculture, who ate his sons after birth to remain king, I re-interpreted this, displaying the opening of a door of Saturn being caught. I wanted to portray human greed as Saturn abuses his power, the pile of skull symbolizing his sins, but also the obstacles of sharing your inner thoughts and feelings as a result of trauma of distrust.

Artwork 3



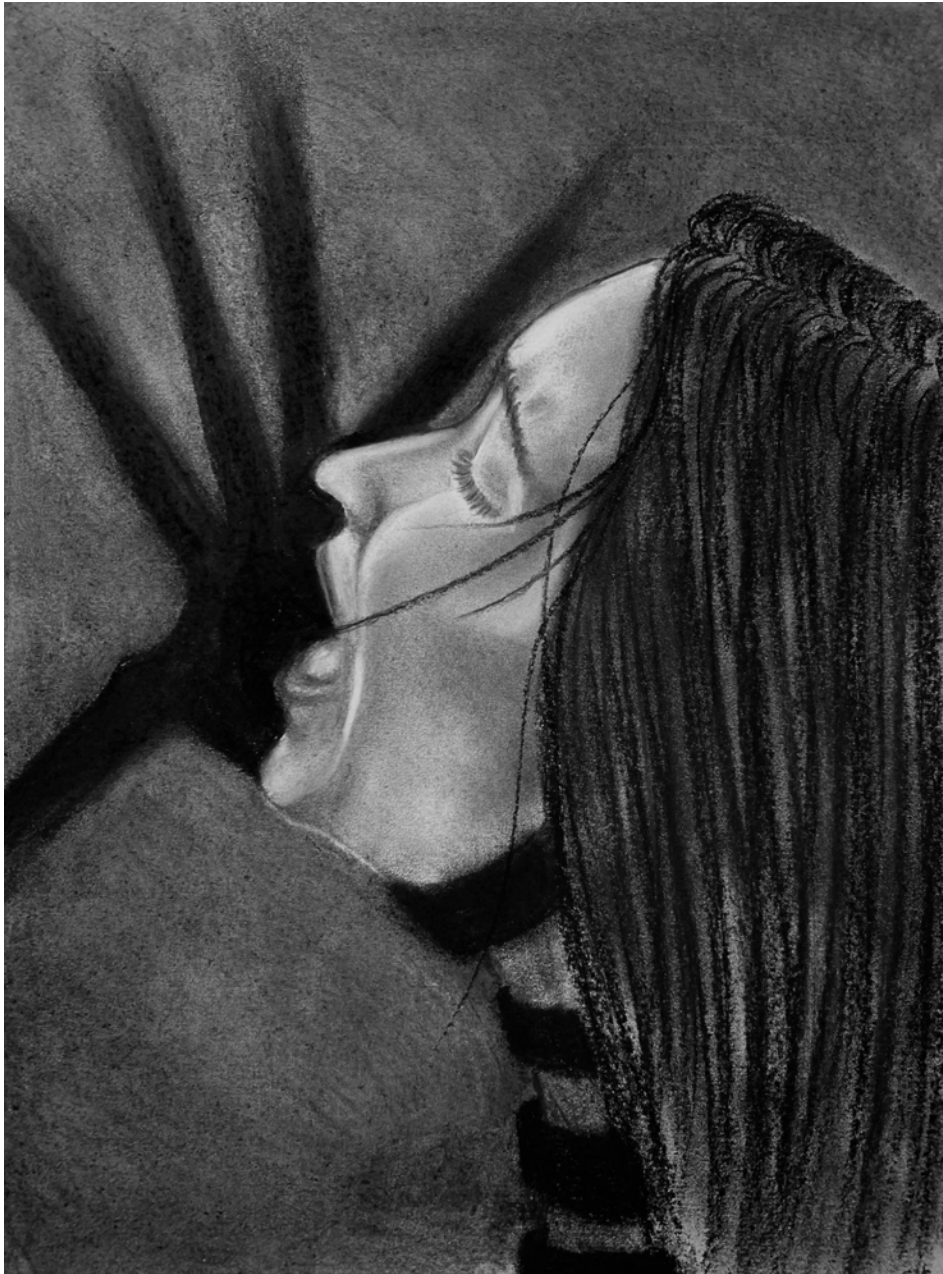
Fear of the Unknown (September 2020)

Acrylic on canvas

37.5 x 45.5cm

Recently I have found myself confused about what I want to achieve in my life, and I wanted to share this feeling with my audience to remind them that they are not alone. The painting focuses on the reaching of hands that symbolizes an unknown force holding me back. Moreover, the staircase represents the different “levels” of my life that I need to climb in order to find my purpose. Both of these features are inspired by a still image from the horror movie *Nosferatu*.

Artwork 4



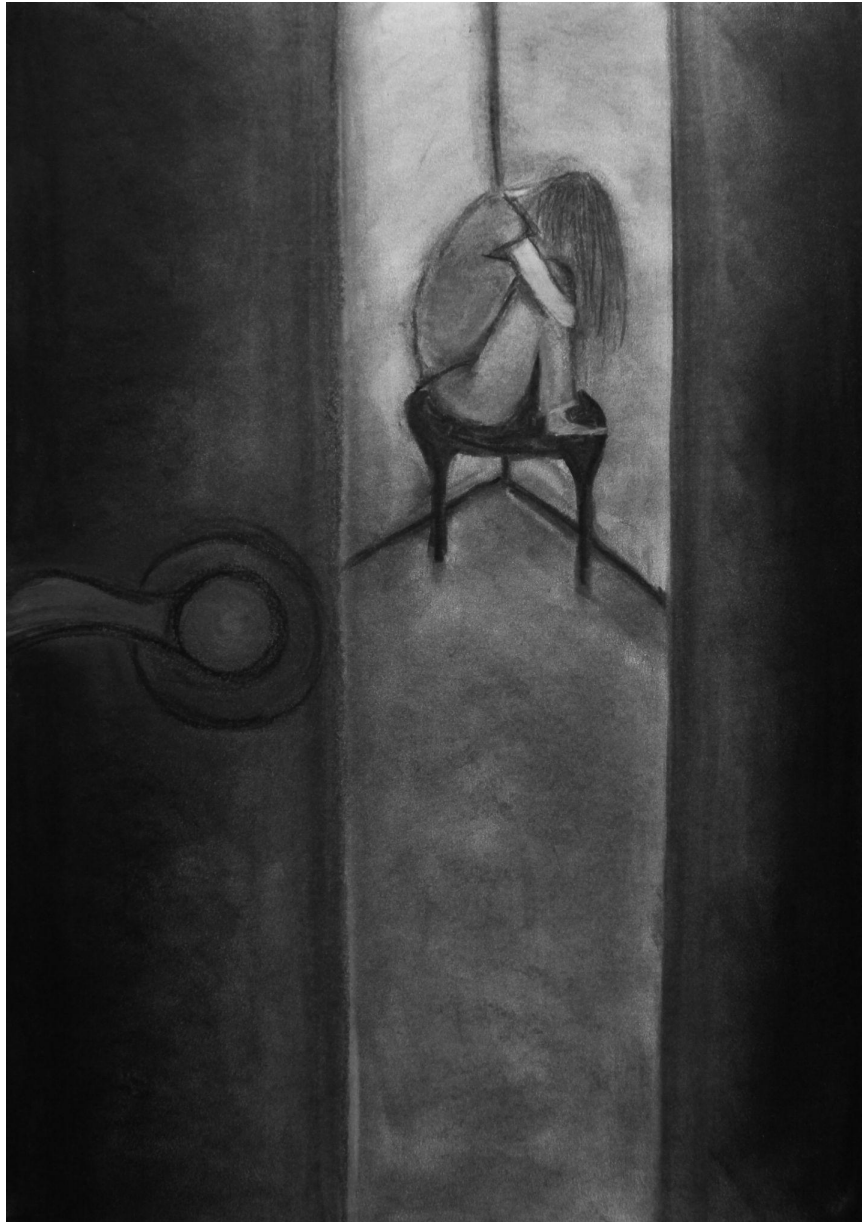
Stuck (December 2020)

Charcoal on white paper

29.7 x 42 cm

The feeling of having an inner demon control your life is what this painting aims to convey. Similar to *Fear of the Unknown*, the reaching of a hand symbolizes the fear of letting your feeling suffocate you, and the twisted extension around the neck portrays this as a spiraling that never ends. The drawing is a self-portrait and I especially focused on highlighting details in my facial expressions, conveying desperation and pain.

Artwork 5



My Corner (February 2021)

Charcoal on white paper

29.7 x 42 cm

When I was little, I had a teacher who used to tell us to sit in a corner if we misbehaved, and it was supposed to teach us that actions have consequences. Due to this experience I associate corners with feeling trapped or lonely, but also, ironically, today I sometimes feel the need to back into a corner and process my feelings. This drawing captures a contrasting situation of the need to self-heal in isolation, but also the opening of the door leading to new opportunities and comfort.

Artwork 6



Closed Walls (April 2020)

Oil on canvas

53 x 63 cm

The creature is squeezed behind two walls in immense pain, illustrating a personal dilemma of desperately attempting to escape a dark place, but with the feeling that something is holding you back. This causes both physical and mental strain as you feel isolated from reality. I took inspiration from Francis Bacon's artwork *Head VI*, by how he uses distortion of facial features, in order to reflect this claustrophobic state of mind that causes both confusion and hysteria.

Artwork 7



Shattered (December 2020)

Oil on canvas

30cm x 39.5cm

At one point in my life, I experienced many nightmares. In one of them, my parents and I were in our car. We noticed that the road had collapsed, causing several cars to drive down a cliff. When I saw the passengers' faces they had turned into shattered glass. I still remember this dream quite vividly, but I haven't figured out its purpose, other than that it left me petrified. This painting attempts to illustrate this, taking inspiration from Edvard Munch's *The Scream*, for the background.

Artwork 8



Faceless (February 2021)

Oil and gesso on panel

37.5cm x 45.5cm

I was inspired by Ken Currie's collection on victims from the Hiroshima bombing in 1945, and his style of emphasizing details, high contrast and exaggerated close-up views. This inspired me to transfer his techniques to my own art, by emphasizing the internal pain from a close-up point of view of a face. The features that make the person seem faceless conveys the feeling of not being heard or seen by those around you, and I used contrasting colors in order to accentuate this numbness.

Samantha Dunn

Overview



Artwork 1



Parade

Medium: digital painting

This piece represents people with differences and being able to enjoy life, having fun in their own ways. Each of the ladies represent different people while the dragon protects them and keeps them from the sea of people. I felt like people always talk about wanting to be someone else but you can only be yourself. The best way to live life is to be happy with the moments you have while being the best you. So this is to show that self-empowerment and individuality.

Artwork 2

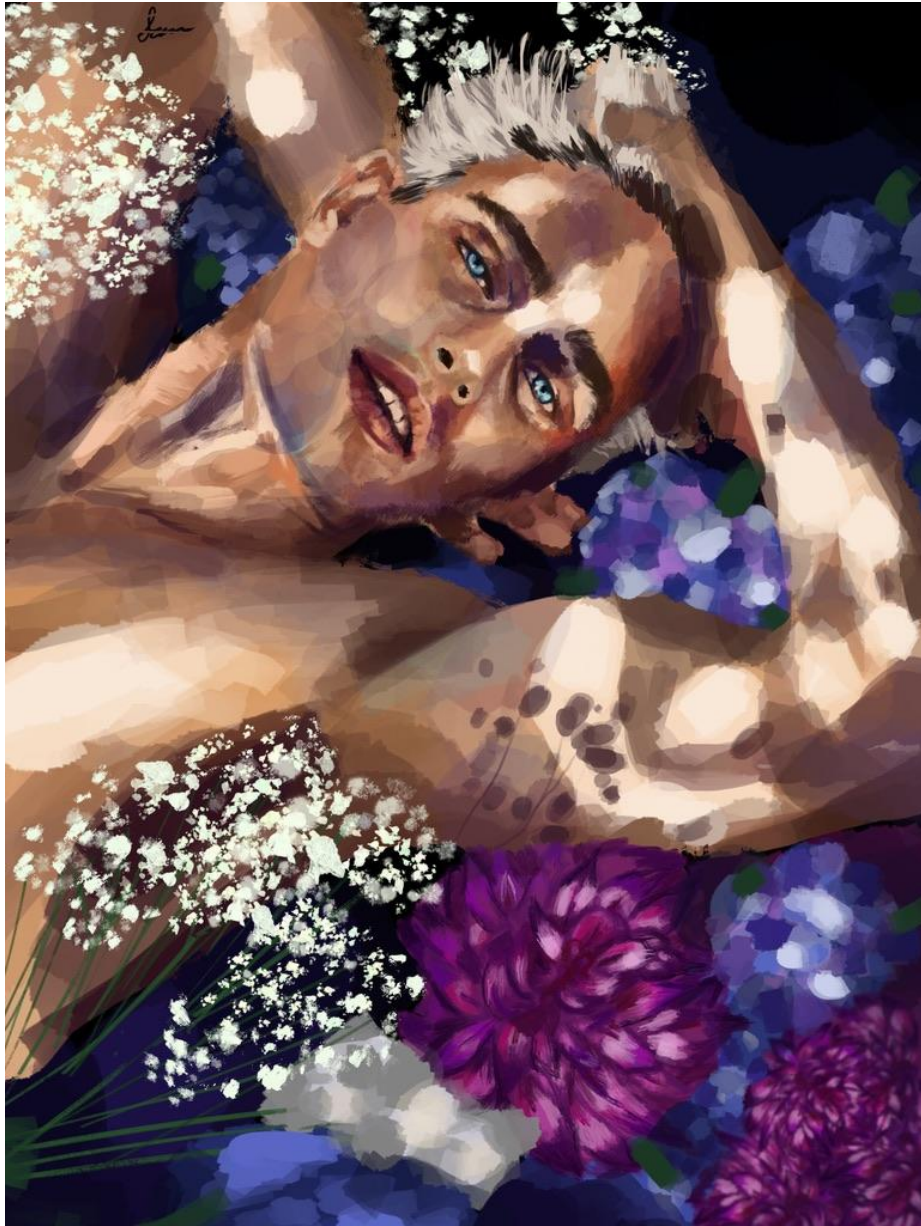


Red Riding Hood

Medium: digital painting

Fairytales have been a big part of my life and influenced me greatly. I liked the red riding hood but I wanted to create a new image of her. The idea of her having weapons and being slightly magical sounded cool to me. I think she fits my overall theme as she is a strong character but still beautiful.

Artwork 3



The Flowerbed

Medium: digital painting Procreate

For this piece I had looked for a very long time to be inspired. I wanted the colors to be just right and have a feeling of beauty. It needed to have light in the right areas as well, so this made it difficult to find the perfect piece. I think I wanted some gender variety as well since I usually paint women.

Artwork 4

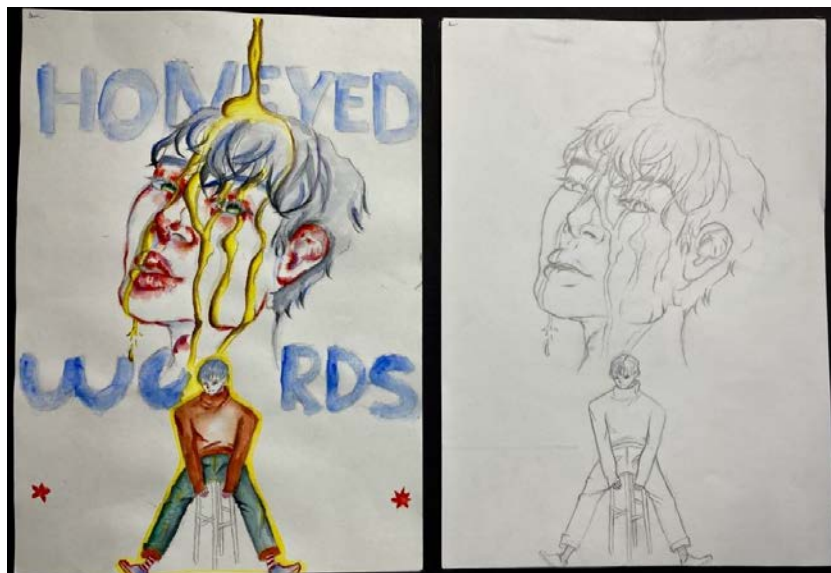


The Yellow Lady

Medium: digital painting

I had seen a painting that caught my eye and I wanted to replicate it into my own version of it. In comparison to the original painting my lady seemed older, but I do think that she looks just as elegant. I had a whole sketch as well for this painting which oddly I liked just as much as the final product.

Artwork 5



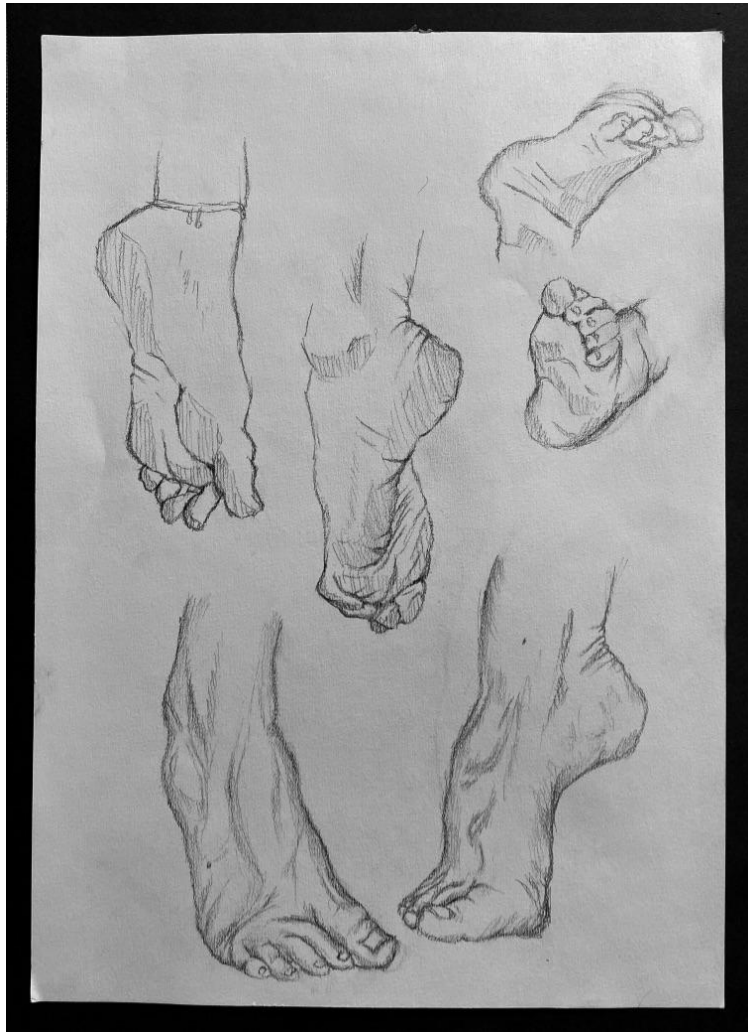
Honeyed words

Medium: watercolour on paper and pencil drawing on paper

I made this piece because I didn't like the feeling of ingenuine or just the feeling of ingenuine compliments. Compliments may feel great in the moment but it can often feel fake or unreliable. I titled the piece honeyed words because people when giving these compliments have a natural sweetness.

65 cm x 45 cm

Artwork 6



Sketches

Medium: pencil drawing on paper

I decided to practice anatomy, and while I tend to practice the face or other parts I thought this was a good chance to practice feet. I really liked the way it turned out, as I had thought that it would be much harder.

33.3 cm x 45.2 cm

Artwork 7



Charcoal Eye

Medium: charcoal on paper

This piece was created in the beginning of the class when we were experimenting with charcoal and chalk. I had already finished my other ones so I started to doodle and it turned into an eye with detailed features. I added streaks from tears at the end because the eye had already looked full of emotion and I wanted to push it a bit further.

45 cm x 64 cm

Filippa Johnsonson

Overview



Artwork 1

New Spirit

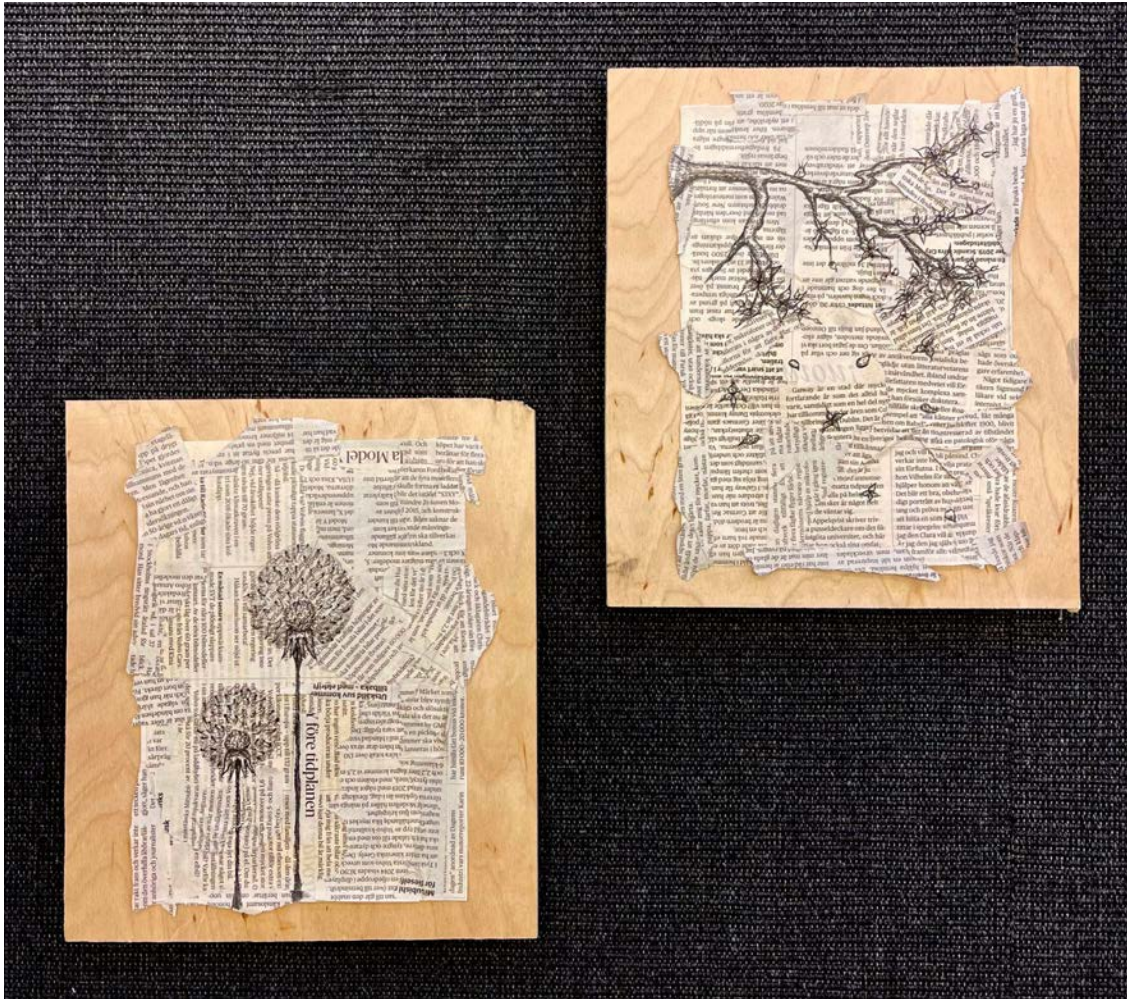
Black ink on paper

64 x 45 cm

“New Spirit” refers to the light and simplicity that comes along with your own soul. While this is soon altered due to the dark happenings of life. It is a message to find that inner child that is protected by the ‘blanket of spirit’. The ink medium allows the detailed technique of illustrating the blanket with such flow to appeal to the viewer’s empathy, associating themselves in the warming comfort of being protected by spirit. (below)



Artwork 2



In the Midst of Chaos

Wooden Board, newspaper, ink

24.5 x 21.5 cm

“In the Midst of Chaos” is a work symbolizing finding serenity and peace in the mainstream media. A world where daunting events are reported daily. The dandelion alludes to a wish for emotional healing, overcoming hardship. While the latter piece builds upon this message; it portrays cherry blossoms as representing the beauty of life, evolving to a strong independent being unchanged by the surrounding chaos, a meditative state.

Artwork 3



By the Seaside

Black and White photography

67 x 59 cm

In the middle of a pandemic, with panic on media platforms, one's view of the world can easily be distorted. Hence the portrayal of an everyday event such as a day by the seaside, to recognise that there is hope and love in the world. Each photo captures movement, to imitate the mood of a movie, engaging the audience by depicting a tranquil escape. Beginning with a tone of community, and closing with an open landscape capturing all levels of life; that beneath, on the surface, and out of reach.

Artwork 4

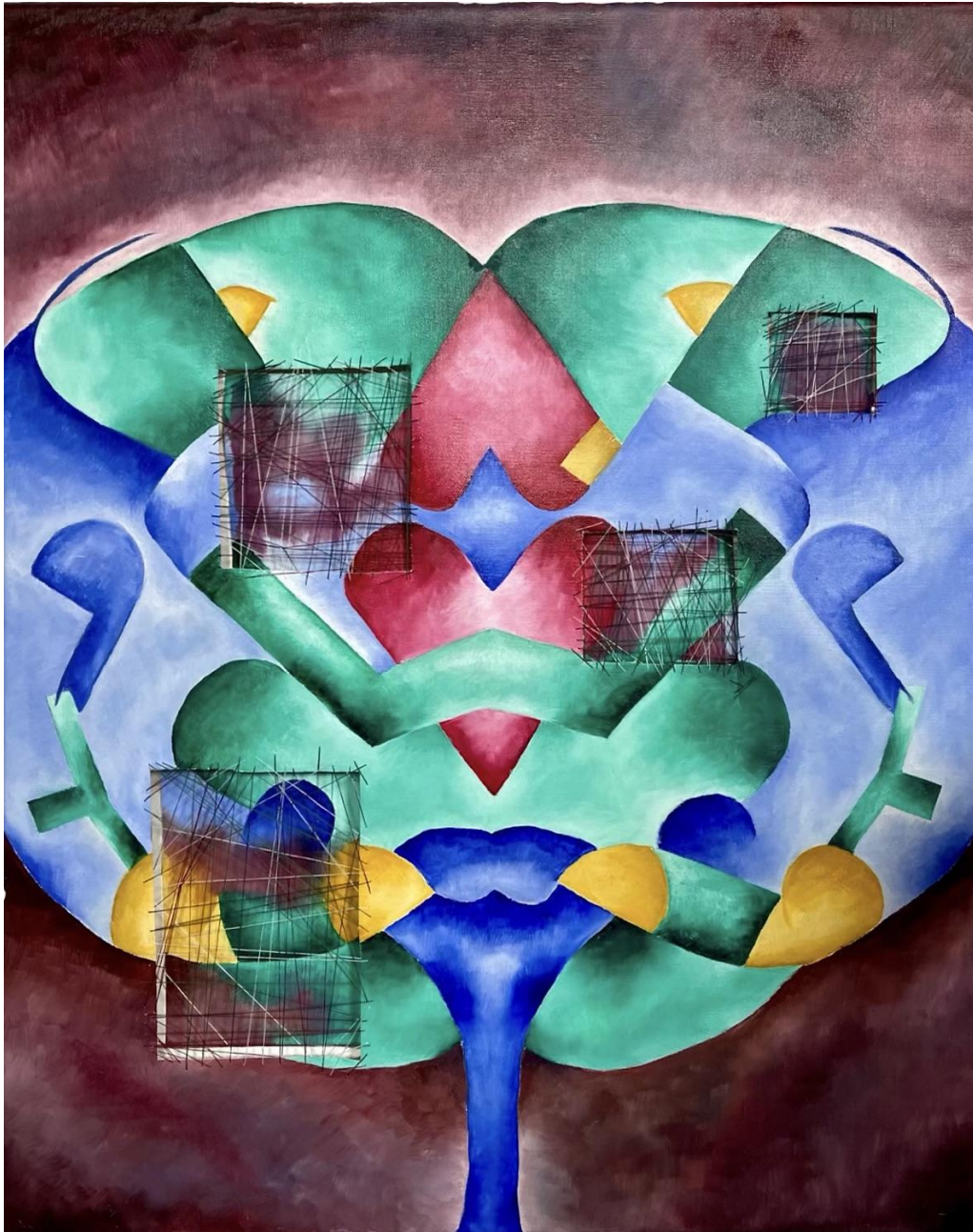


Tick Tock

Natural media (sticks), tulle, acrylic paint,
23 cm depth, 28 cm width, 46 cm height

This modernist artwork uses natural mediums connecting the earth to the purpose of the piece; enhancing the aim of exploring the depths of global warming, while incorporating symbols of the importance of spiritual development as means to persevere through the obstacles of life. "Tick tock" refers to the urgency and time limit we have on this earth, just as the polar bear is striving towards the light, we must find that serenity too.

Artwork 5



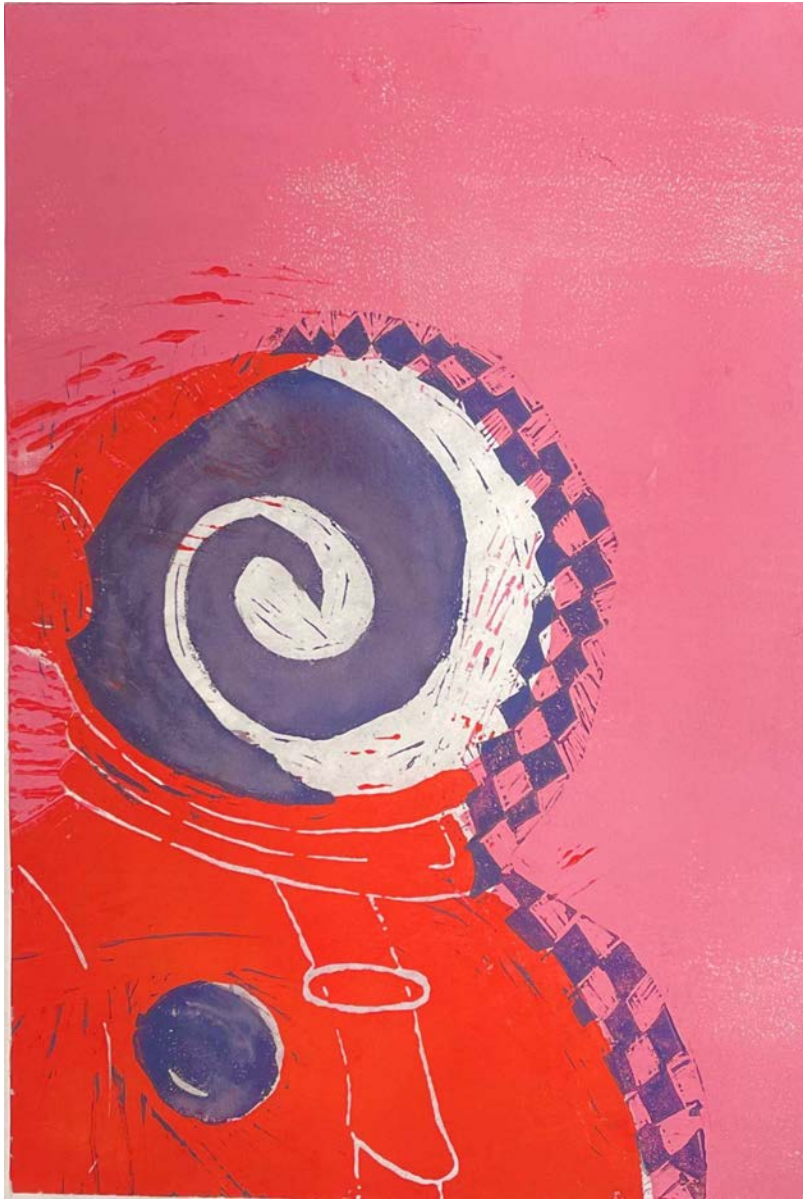
Brainstorm

Sewing string and oil on canvas

80 x 64 cm

“Brainstorm” is a raw portrayal of my personal struggles of growth and overcoming epilepsy and a depressive state. With links to Cubism and Surrealism, this experimental piece depicts a broken and healing brain. Color symbolism is a major contributor to effectively showing the aim of this artwork. It illustrates the strength of humans even at the lowest points in their lives. Reflecting the focal point of the heart emphasizes the effectiveness of self love as a tool to overcome anything.

Artwork 6



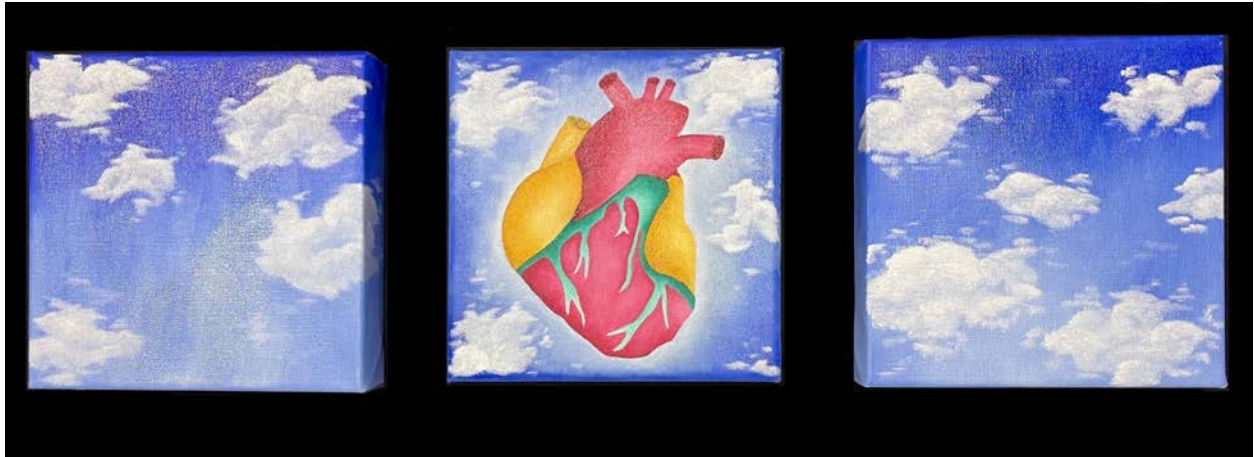
Ethereal

Linocut print

29.5 x 19.6 cm

This self portrait uses three separate linocut bases to assemble one print. The astronaut depiction symbolises the feeling of being alone and different in a vast universe. While the swirl on the glass helmet refers to the pop culture character 'Mysterio'; conveying that there is a mystery and depth of the mind, a chaotic yet "ethereal" place. Focusing on shape symbolism, diamonds refers to the wisdom that follows the examination of oneself when having the ability to be alone.

Artwork 7



Unimaginable Freedom

Oil on canvas

19.6 x 20 x 3.5 cm (x2), 19.6 x 20 x 1.3 cm

“Unimaginable Freedom” portrays a similarity to the surrealism of Rene Magritte. Such an inconceivable depiction which is split into three canvases of different canvas depths illustrates an ambiguity, allowing the viewer to incorporate their own understanding of their own version of freedom. Freedom from; the mind, thoughts, societal norms. A complete depiction of human power.

Artwork 8

Reborn

Digital art

50 x 36 cm

“Reborn” is a complete depiction of the final step of the journey of life. Finding yourself, your inner child, soul and happiness. Utilizing the artist’s most close-to-heart images, and symbols such as butterflies for freedom and clouds for clear thinking and emotional intelligence. This piece is an intricate composition aimed at portraying a safe haven of childhood and the true power of self love.

Ending the exhibition with the question, “What is your soul’s truth”.

(below)

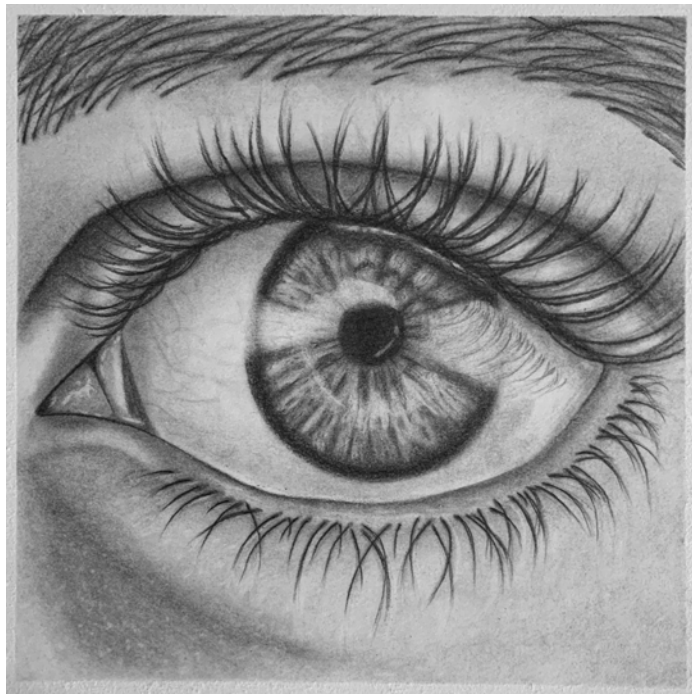


Alma Leksell

Overview



Artwork 1



Who Are You? (February 2021)

Graphite pencil
(20x20 cm)

This hyper-realistic piece inspired by Hector Gonzales aims to capture the audience's attention and open their minds to the idea of identity. The slight discomfort resulting from the intense gaze of the eye encourages the audience to reflect on who they are deep inside and if this is how they actively portray themselves to be. The vulnerability of the audience as they reflect on this creates trust, which strengthens the bond between my artwork and the audience exploring the journey portrayed.

Artwork 2



Property of Society (May 2020)

Manipulated Photograph
(50x70 cm)

This piece portrays how individuals often let society label or address them with hurtful words that are not a true reflection of who they are. Taken in a bathroom mirror, this photograph reflects how seeing ourselves daily results in excessive self-judgement, heavily influenced by words expressed online, even if they aren't targeting us directly. The intention behind this piece is to allow those who relate to feel less alone in how social media affects their self-image.

Artwork 3



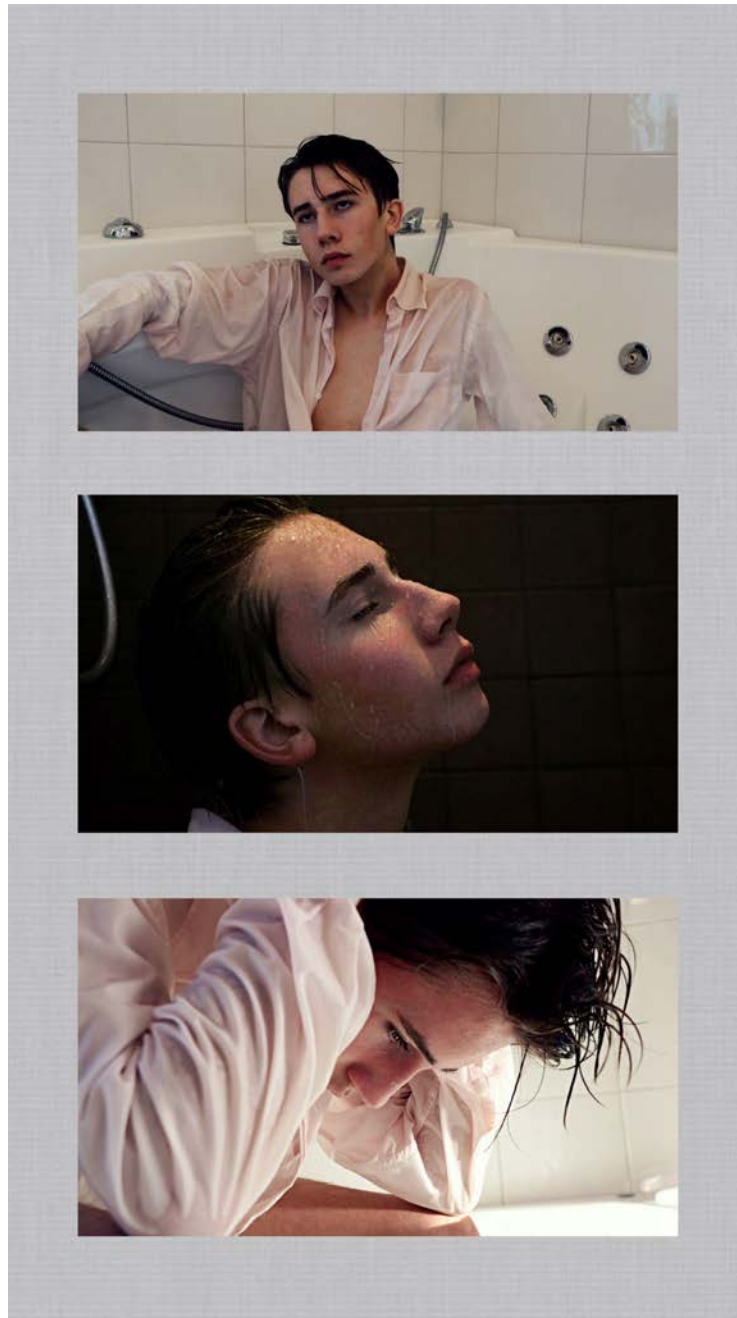
Beneath the Surface (December 2020)

Acrylic on canvas

(55x65)

This painting symbolises how social pressures, both online and in real life can make individuals feel the need to suppress their true self in order to conform to society's ideals and expectations. This fake front is created in vibrant colors and uses butterflies to reflect the illusion of freedom. In contrast, the desaturated upper corner reveals the true, negative impact of social pressures that is hidden from society, only ever slightly exposed as the mask is 'unzipped' to reveal the truth.

Artwork 4



Cemetery of Solitude (November 2020)

Photography

(17x29)

This photography series is heavily influenced by Edward Hopper's pieces depicting loneliness in modern, everyday life. When staging this shoot, I aimed to capture the peak of mental exhaustion, the moment where the individual feels as though they are drowning under the pressures of society, all alone with nobody around to save them. In this case, the individual has disconnected from reality entirely, letting the warmth of the water remind them of their existence.

Artwork 5



The Freedom of Self-Acceptance (March 2021)
Mixed media on canvas (acrylic, newspaper, beads, dice)
(49x50 cm)

Juxtaposing the previous pieces in my exhibition both visually and thematically, this abstract expressionist piece is a direct reflection of how freeing it is to no longer give in to the pressures of society. By distancing oneself from social media at times as symbolized by the escape button and focusing on developing self-love and focusing on pursuing a life true to one's identity, a sense of freedom and good luck, as reflected by the two dice showing sixes, can be achieved.

Alice Leonardos Tabajara

Overview



Artwork 1



Growing and Learning

This artwork was made with the intention of showing how much we grow and mature from when we were children to where we are now. It is a self portrait containing both my baby self and how I am now. It is also an experiment with how well I can paint with oil. It is an oil painting on canvas and was finished in a month.

Artwork 2



Inside my Thoughts

The artwork represents my thoughts and one of my weirdest hobbies. It shows one of the many quotes I have collected throughout the years. It represents what I would imagine my thoughts look like. Chaotic yet, to me, understandable. It is a mixed media artwork on a canvas.

Artwork 3



The Good and Anxious

This mini photography collection is the depiction of two of my most important personality traits. The colourful girl signifies my optimistic and positive side, while the girl in black represents my anxiety. These were very important attributes to my personality that build my maturity and how I make decisions in life.

Artwork 4



Magnolias for Alice

While doing my research for the comparative study, I made these two artworks to coincide with the theme. I studied the meaning of flowers for a while and I came across the Magnolia. It is a beautiful flower which meant “Nobility”. My name, Alice, has the same meaning. Alice is a German name that means “Noble” or “Of noble quality”. It is a watercolour painting with red coloured pencil.

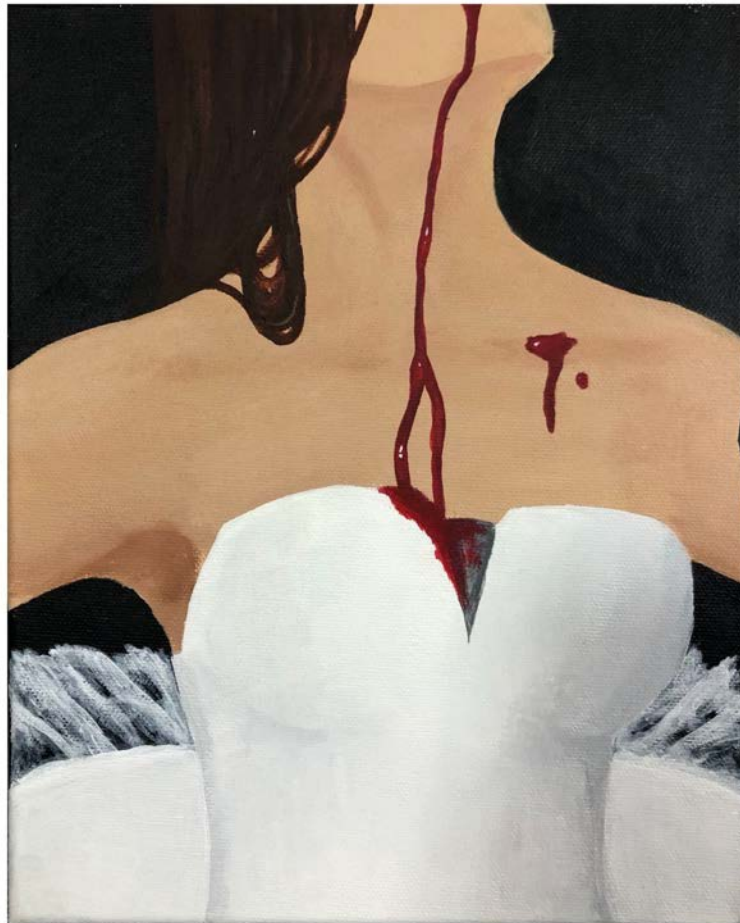
Artwork 5



Tarot for Days

In the recent years one of my closest friends helped me develop an interest in tarot reading. Though I am not the expert and do not know all the meanings of all the cards, I am very found of the Major Arcana. The major Arcana has 22 cards from “The fool” to “The universe”. I decided I wanted to make my own version of the tarot cards. It was made using a app called Procreate.

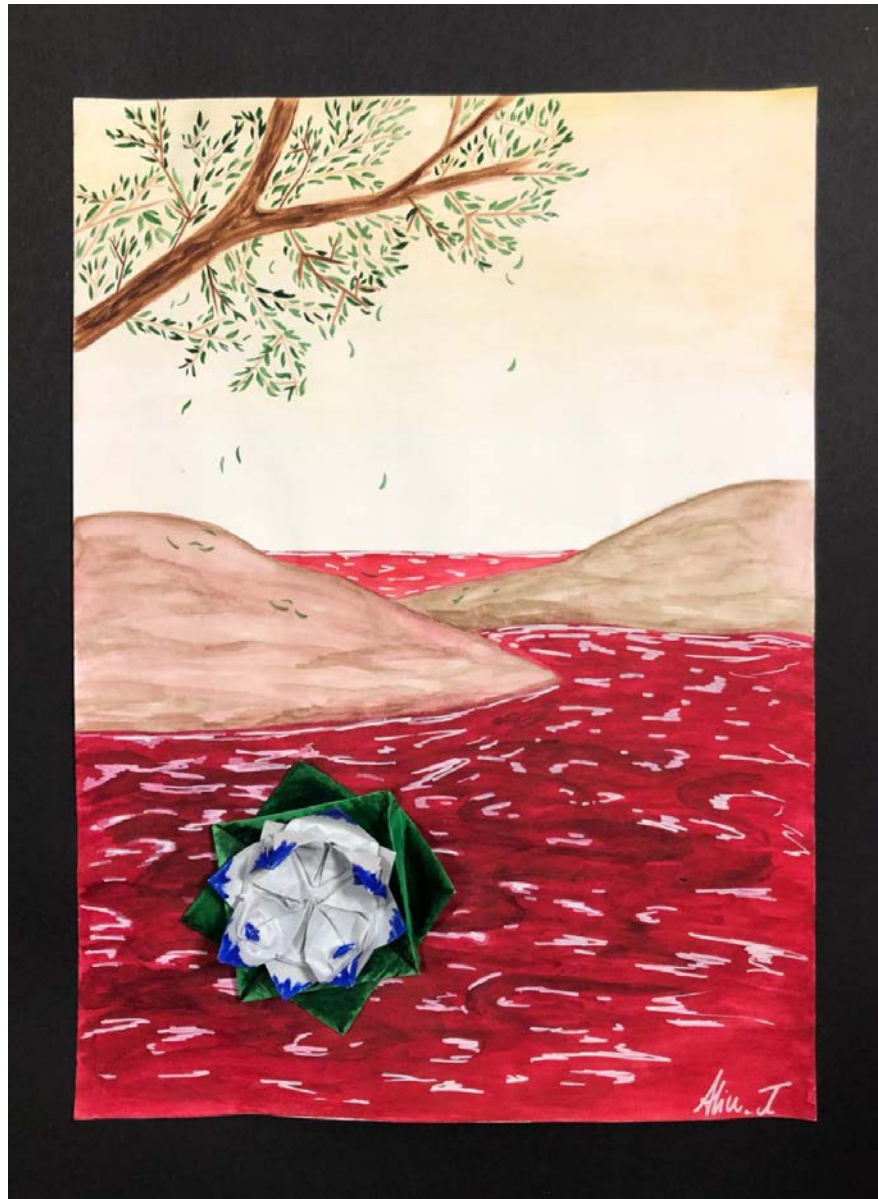
Artwork 6



Perfectionism is the Art of Dancing

This was one of the first artworks I have done in the IB. It was meant to represent the hard work and pain that ballerinas go through to achieve perfection in their dance. Another reason I chose to make this artwork was my appreciation and love for what ballerinas do. I love going to watch ballet performances like “the nutcracker” and “Giselle”.

Artwork 7



The Calming of the River

This artwork is a demonstration of what I do when I feel anxious and nervous about something. I meditate. The origami in the middle is a lotus made out of paper, and it is a visual representation of an incense holder. Incense is used to purify and clean the bad energies in a room and is usually used before meditating.

Pauline Leroi

Overview



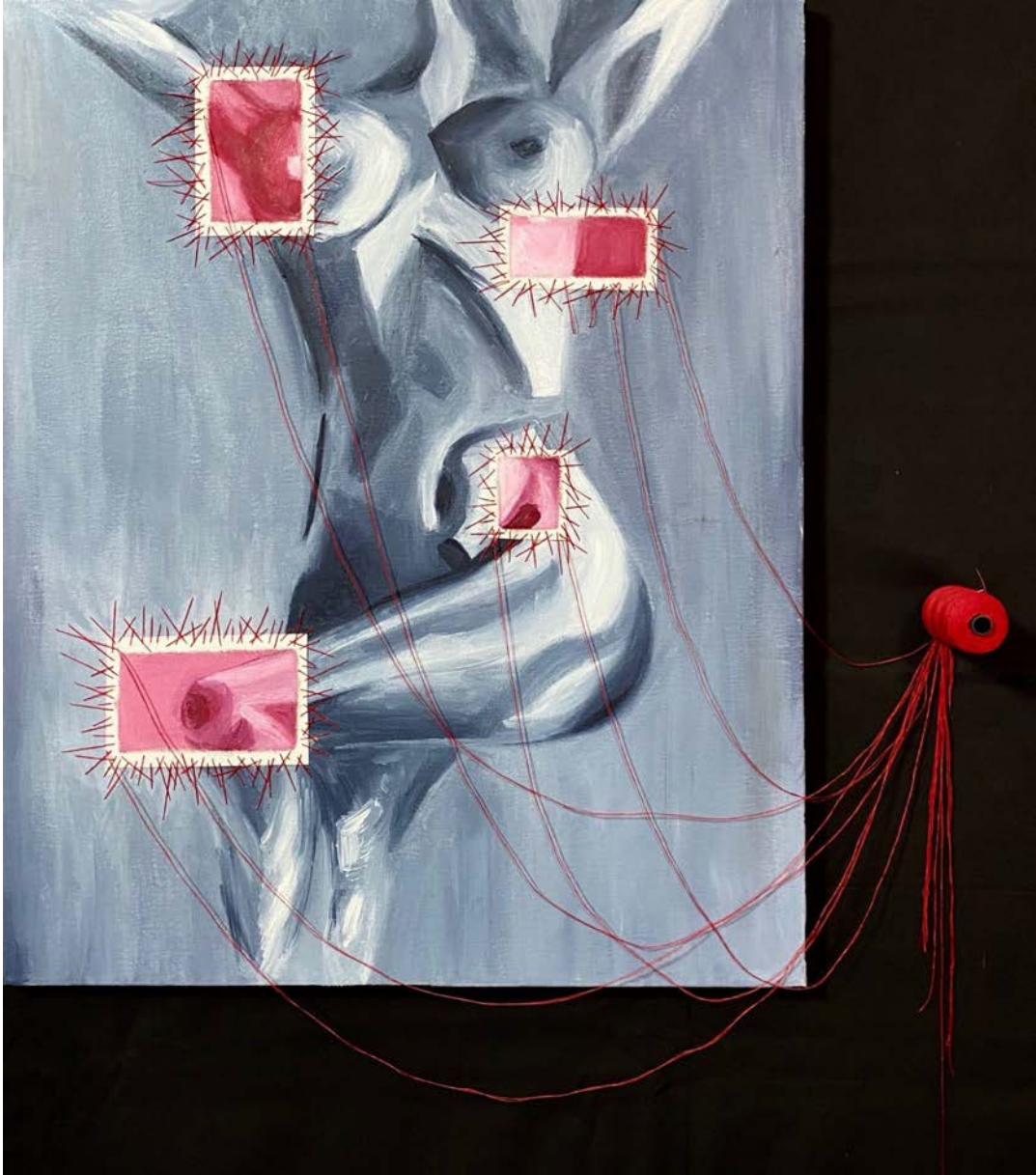
Artwork 1

Bodily Obsessions

Oil and Stitches On Canvas

50 x 61.5 cm

This piece exhibits the unrealistic beauty standards social media has enforced and the desire for women to transform their physical appearance to fit into the “norm”. In doing so, the red stitches symbolize both the physical pain from the medical procedures alongside the mental strain one undergoes in accepting their own body type. The deliberate inclusion of the string overlapping the painting and rejoining the full string spool highlights the toxicity of social media and how, consequently, women try to hide their imperfections. (below)



Artwork 2



Eye See You

Oil and Stitches On Canvas

24 x 30 cm

Humans tend to publicise an idealized version of themselves. The deconstruction of my model's facial features mimics the real life transformation one undergoes when discovering one's true persona - layer by layer. Nevertheless, the rectangular segments are combined to form a single face, portraying the "put-together" facade one puts on and how first impressions can be misleading. The stitching is symbolic of the forceful nature in presenting oneself in a certain manner to defy societal stereotypes.

Artwork 3



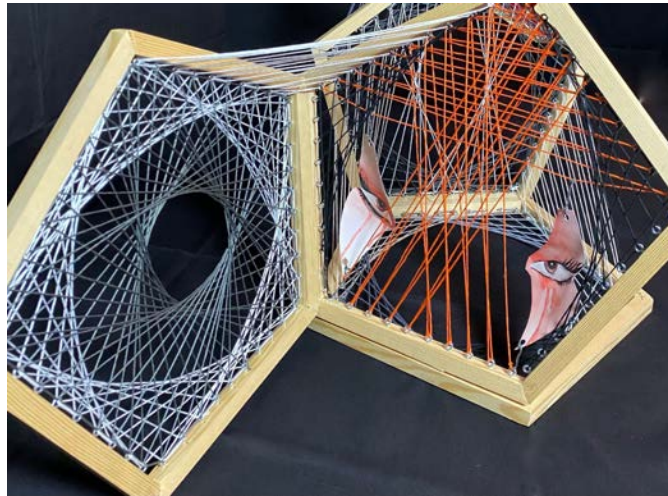
Perception or Reality?

Oil and Stitches On Canvas

33 x 41 cm

I wanted the main subject of this piece to be an older male to defy gender stereotypes and show how emotive transformation is timeless and concerns everyone. Here, each rectangular segment represents a different mental state. I used a combination of photography pieces and oil paint to represent real vs idealized versions of oneself. The photographs are true depictions whereas the painted segments are ameliorations.

Artwork 4



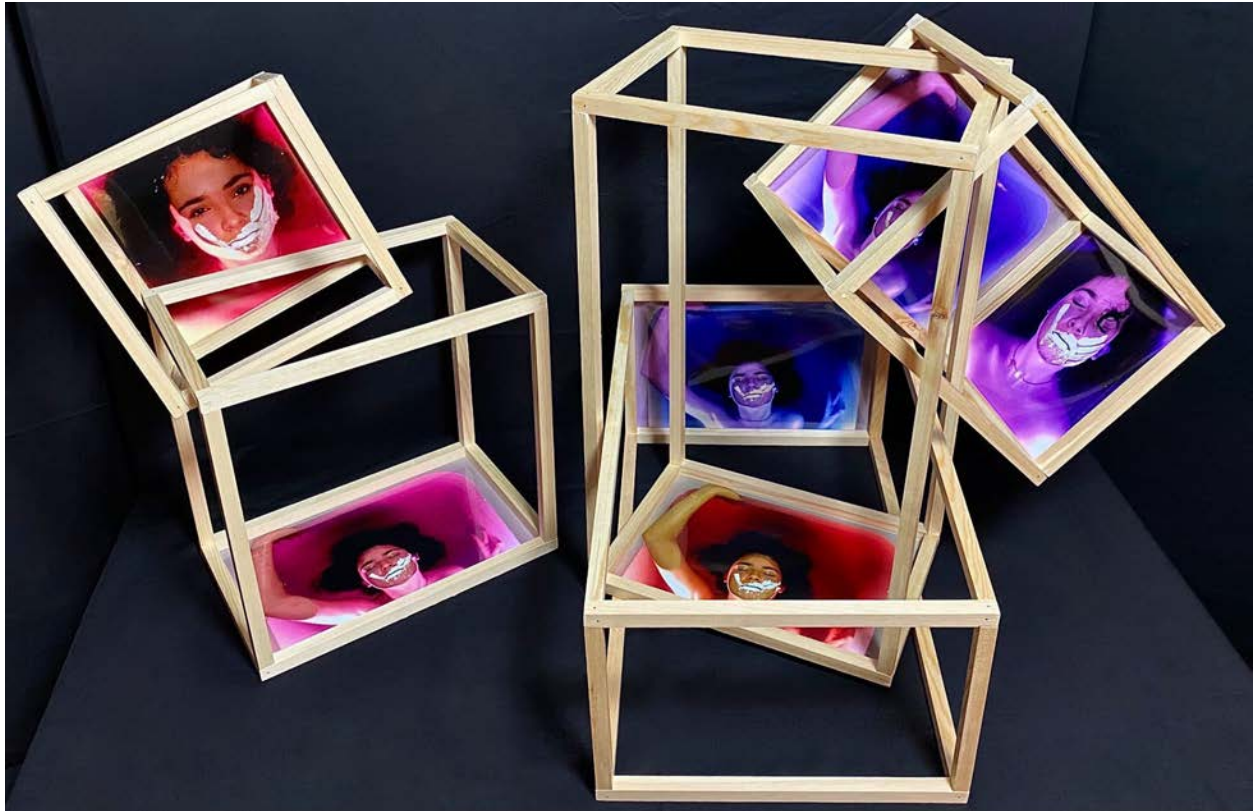
Dimensions

Wooden Sculpture with String and Watercolour

36 x 38 x 101 cm

Inspired by Nike Savvas' "*Sliding Ladders*" series, I made geometrical shapes cast out of wood with parabolic curve-stitch designs to create optical illusions and perspective transformations as the viewer moves around the sculpture. Each wooden pentagon alongside the watercolour painting of the eyes symbolise the five major "dimensions" to one's personality: openness, conscientiousness, agreeableness, extraversion, and neuroticism. The disparate string work is representative of these changing traits while the string between the pentagons metaphorically "ties" the dimensions together.

Artwork 5



Trapped But Transforming

Wooden Sculpture with Photographs

53 x 65 x 92 cm

Inspired by Matthew Stone's photographic sculptures, I wanted this piece to evoke self-growth even in periods of desperation. The subject's hands and the manner in which each photograph fits perfectly into the cuboids makes the subject appear "trapped". The journey of self-growth begins on the right, where the subject is closing her eyes, and continues through the transformed cuboids until the final photograph, where the subject opens her eyes to discover a new version of herself.

Artwork 6



CHAOS

Mixed Media: photography, soft pastel and acrylic on canvas

116 x 64 cm

The chaotic aspect of this piece, in terms of the transformation of emotions, is inspired by Francis Bacon, who once said “Chaos suggests images to me”. In this regard, the photographs visualise my own interpretation of chaos - reflective of unpredictable behaviour and a confused state of mind through the mirror reflections. Inspired by Annegret Soltau, I use a running stitch technique on top of the photographs to focalise movement in the direction of the emotion. The background consists of unordered splurges of paint and soft pastel to heighten the chaotic mood.

Artwork 8



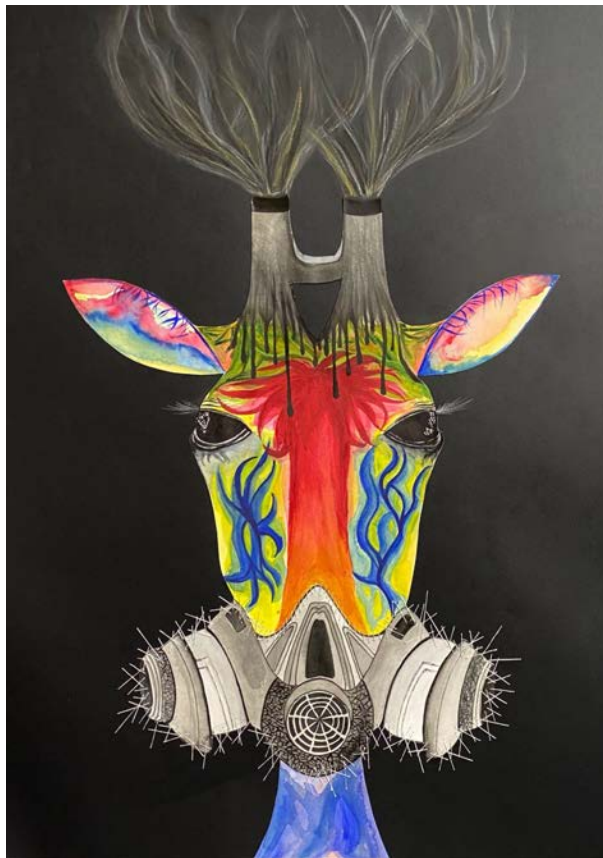
Revealing and Concealing

Watercolour on Mirrored Aluminium

104 x 30 cm

Focused on emotional instability - the inexplicable transformation of our mental state - this piece was inspired by Martin C Herbst. The three faces depict calmness, unease, and finally, misery. Through the three-dimensional mirrored aluminium, the expressive faces are “concealed” when the beholder comes from either side of the triptych, showcasing the difficulty in determining one’s true state. Upon “reveal”, the deliberate folds in the aluminium cause numerous reflections which portrays the subjectivity in analysing emotion.

Artwork 7



Humanization

Mixed Media: Watercolour, Chalk, Ink, and String on Black Paper

55 x 75.5 cm

This artwork demonstrates the transformation of the natural world as a consequence of climate change. Inspired by Salvador Dali’s “*Metamorphosis of Narcissus*”, the giraffe’s horns are metamorphosed into factories letting out smoke. The replacement of the giraffe’s horns by factories portrays its defenseless state and how it carries the “burden” of the factories.

By wearing a gas mask to protect itself, the giraffe is humanized, highlighting human privilege. The sewing of the mask represents the abnormality of the concept - real solutions must be found against climate change.

Yumi Liberman

Overview



Artwork 1



Yú 魚

Medium: Lithography on Rice Paper

Intention: This multiprint piece is composed of 3 different species of *Betta*. Native to Asia, *Betta* fish symbolize the broad theme of *balance* where in Chinese philosophy, the female and male betta fish are in partnership, thus, portraying the harmony of opposite energies. I present the fish as the centerpiece, with no elements of distraction. My choice of vibrant colors are inspired by pop artist Andy Warhol. By using lithographic techniques, I was also able to play with negative and positive spaces.

Artwork 2



Anthophila

Media: Mixed Media composed of string, cardstock paper, and needles.

Intention: *Anthophila* is the Latin name for bees. This piece uses cubistic techniques to present bee-associated microorganisms in the honeycomb. Bees are declared as the most important species on Earth, providing pollination to the world's plants. The variation of colors represents diversity in the natural world. The string in different shapes showcases microbial communities inside the honey-bee comb. When the light shines upon the artwork, the strings cast shadows, creating intricate patterns.

Artwork 3



Bacteria Formations

Media: Cardstock Paper and Polystyrene

Intention: Inspired by my own vegetable garden, I was curious to explore the structure of soil bacteria. By hand-carving and layering cardstock paper, I produced a three-dimensional sculpture that mimics viral colonies. Both “good” and “bad” bacteria are exhibited in order to represent a balanced variety of soil bacteria, considering that both components contribute to healthy soils. The “bad” bacteria are necessary because they generate a stronger defense system for the “good” bacteria.

- *Acidobacteria*: water and nutrition trap (yellow sculpture)
- *Bacillus Subtills*: produce antibiotics (light blue sculpture)
- *Proteobacteria*: a pathogenic bacterium (green sculpture)

Artwork 4



Industrial Chaos

Medium: Mixed Media composed of watercolors, plastic, glass, tin, and silk paper

Intention: The materials inside the spider's stomach depict the ingestion of harmful human-made substances. Although spiders might have negative connotations, spiders are among the most crucial invertebrate predators in terrestrial ecosystems. This piece represents the accumulation of dangerous substances resulting in millions of animal deaths. The crippled background represents the chaos, and the opposing colors of the spider and background creates a sense of disharmony.

Artwork 5

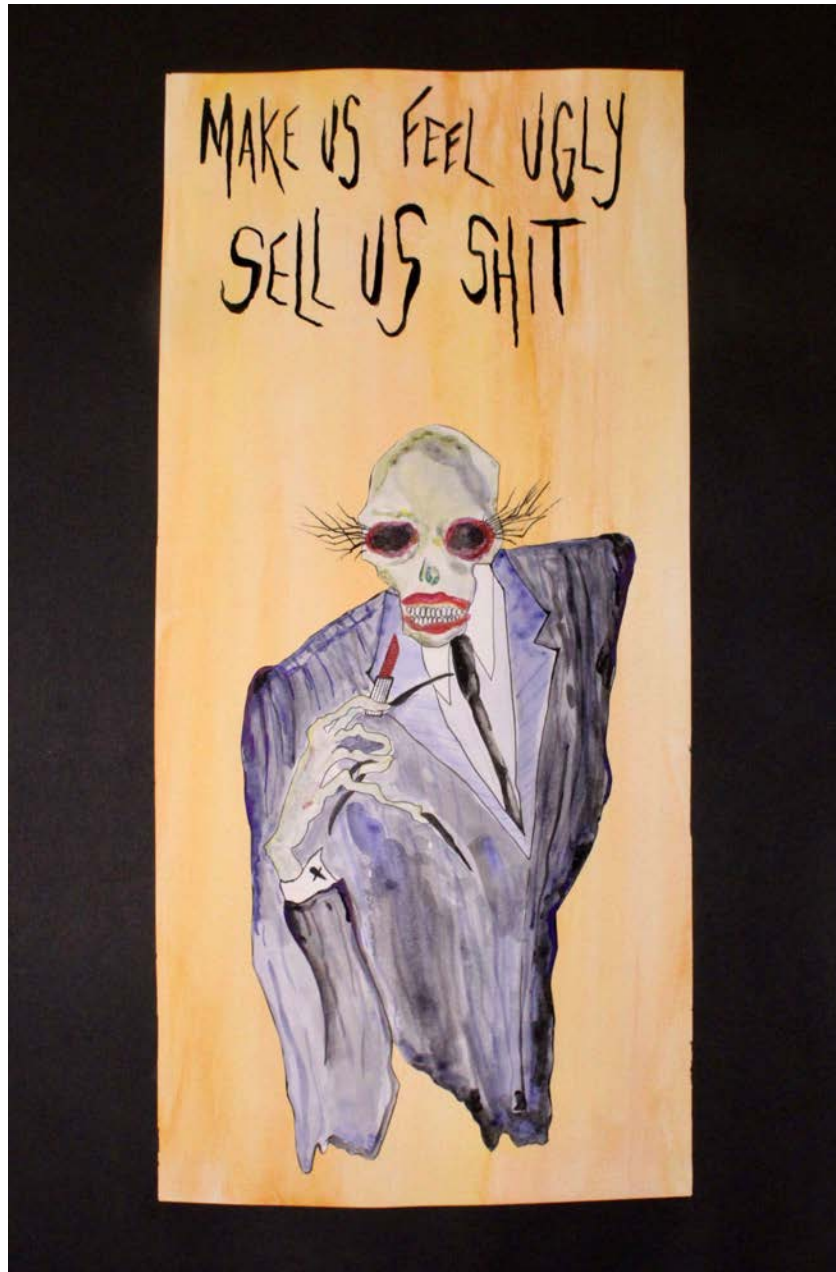


More Money!

Medium: Acrylic Paint and Print Paper

Intention: Money is undoubtedly the role driver of this world. In this piece, I intend to metaphorically address the imbalance of *have's* and *have not's*. Inspired by Jenny Saville, I used heavy layers of paint, choppy brush strokes, and a rough texture to create a sense of persistent uneasy movement. The money hurling out of the grotesque-looking man symbolizes excessive consumption, where his craving for money originates from an obsession with wealth.

Artwork 6



Bones & Lipstick

Medium: Mixed Media composed of watercolors, and string.

Intention: This satirical piece aims to metaphorically portray imbalances between humankind and critique how social media and product advertising glamorizes superficiality at the cost of making viewers feel insecure about themselves. The skeleton symbolizes exhaustion and is constantly running towards making itself look “prettier.” Therefore, the red lipstick represents the hunger for social acceptance whilst wasting money on material things.

Artwork 7



Nurture

Medium: Photography on Printed Paper

Intention: *Nurture* is a time-related collage where the intersection of images create an illusionary movement. This piece portrays the vitality of my parents in my personal development. I play with time by presenting my parents and I at different life stages. The 1st image shows my mother, with overlapping images of me as a child. The 2nd image shows my father and I today, thus, foreshadowing self discovery. By weaving the paper, I play with compositional balance by manipulating negative and positive space.

Artwork 8



Shù (树)

Medium: Ink and Pencil on Fine-grained Paper

Intention: This image's overall composition implements the symbol *yin and yang* by representing an interaction between dark and light elements. The left side portrays tree rings, a symbol of growth, as each new layer of wood represents an additional season. The right side exhibits an up-close perspective of fungi, inside the tree. Inspired by East Asian brush techniques, the black ink disperses into the paper, making unique shapes.

Artwork 9



Double Vision

Medium: Acrylic Paint

Intention: Inspired by Picasso, I aimed to paint a dynamic self-portrait with cubist techniques that alludes to my own personality traits. I explored *compositional balance* where the arms, for instance, are shaped like a rectangle and subtly fill the image; creating a frame for the rest of the body. The breast hints at an aspect of femininity but aims not to objectify the female body. The choice of colors adopts the Japanese concept '*notan*' - involving the play and placement of light and dark elements.

Emelie Lustig

Overview



Artwork 1



Play Date, (November 2020)

28cm x 16.5cm x 18.5cm

Plastilina clay

The three sculptures depict the internal curiosity and freedom that I commonly associate with children. The sense of playfulness is portrayed through the use of colours, negative space, flowing and rounded forms. They represent the child mind and symbolize the memory of being a child, acting as a reminder to hold on to this carefree mind, even as you grow up, and not give in to fear. The inspiration comes from both Barbara Hepworth “*Curved form (Bryher)*” and Jean Arp “*The Star*”.

Artwork 2



Mental Freedom, (February 2021)

45.5cm x 78cm x 26cm

Wire, beads, paper circles, glue

In contrast to *Mind Map*, *Mental Freedom* is meant to balance out the negative emotions associated with chaos and anxiety. The white paper, circles and symbolism of the tree portray the emotional message of harmony and peace. The artwork is meant to relay a sense of calm and the paper circles depict an abstract version of a tree, a grounding and wisdom providing symbol to help conquer the anxious thoughts. The inspiration comes from Bea Szenfeld, an artist known for her paper sculptures.

Artwork 3



Mind Map, (December 2020)

35cm x 50cm

Canvas, pen, acrylic paint

Mind Map depicts how it may look like inside someone's head who is struggling with anxiety, something I personally struggle with. I want the viewer to relate to the words and feelings, knowing that they are not alone. It is a text-based piece inspired by Shantell Martin and Jack Carden, an artist from social media. The composition of the eyes in the middle creates a feeling of someone staring at you, a common anxious thought. Lastly, the canvases represent how anxiety comes in different forms.

Artwork 4



Monsters in my head, (May 2020)

17cm x 15cm x 14.5cm

Dolls, glue, acrylic paint, wire

The sculpture represents fear, and is an interpretation of the monsters in your head. Fear is an emotion that can prohibit growth and cause a sense of imprisonment, including the pessimistic thoughts in your head. The sculpture is a representation of this, thereby depicts a stark contrast to the alleviating and freeing emotions in my artwork *Play Date*. The inspiration is Michael deMeng's assemblage "*Big Ben*", which includes a doll's head, an object that tends to portray an unsettling feeling.

Antonia Nobel

Overview



Artwork 1



Always the Same

Soft Acrylic on Canvas with String

45 x 46 cm

A sense of difference or inequality is a rather common concept within that we see in our world today. This piece is meant to signify the obscure yet intouch relationship between two contrasting identities. As one character, who is of lower hierarchy, suffering more, reaches out to one of higher status with increased lavishness, they connect through three thin strings, signifying a constant state of indifference.

Artwork 2



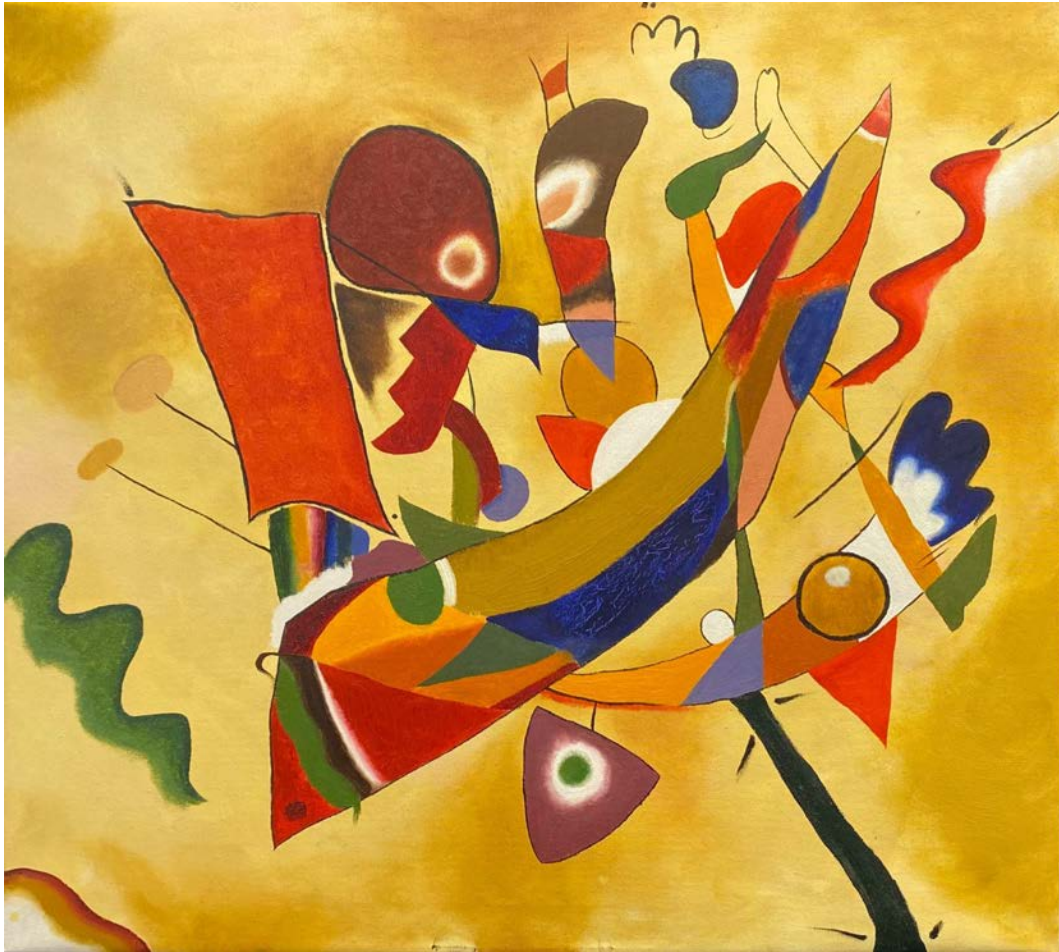
YouMe

Multi Media Sculpture: wooden box, wire, clay, newspaper, and nails

19.8 x 10.7 x 29.9 cm

You and I are two different people, different identities, leading different lives. This installation is meant to portray a sense of disassociation between the subject within the boxed enclosure and the audience. The viewer is different from the identity within the installation. The enclosure symbolises a stage of life in which the figure feels trapped within. The connection however still remains existent due to the opened door, hinting at an opportunity for contact.

Artwork 3



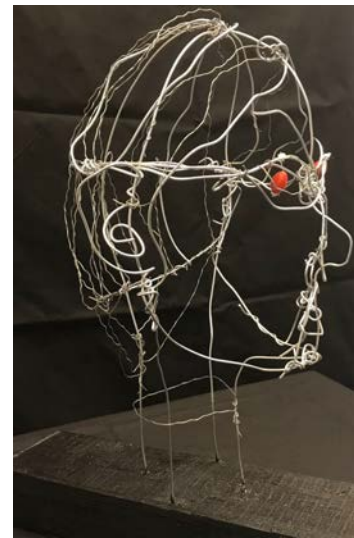
Nessun Dorma

Oil On Canvas

72 x 81.2 cm

“Nessun Dorma” by Giacomo Puccini, is a well known aria that is part of the famous opera, Turandot. This piece is a reflection of the emotions experienced whilst listening to the song. It symbolises a strong sense of nostalgia; mentally projecting the time my father introduced me to opera. The piece reiterates a visual expression of a fragment of my identity, whilst also accentuating the relationship between colours, shapes and composition.

Artwork 4



Frank

Wire sculpture on wooden base

32.5 x 24.5 x 38 cm

Humans are incredibly complex creatures that in a way feed off of relationships. *Frank* illustrates the idea that we are more than two dimensional, but more than that, we can't find out when we're strangers to each other. We will never truly grasp what lies within the soul of someone from a first glance. As this is the viewer's first glance at Frank, they too, are void of comprehension, hence his emptiness. In the beginning, all we are exposed are both thin and thick outlines of our identities.

Artwork 5



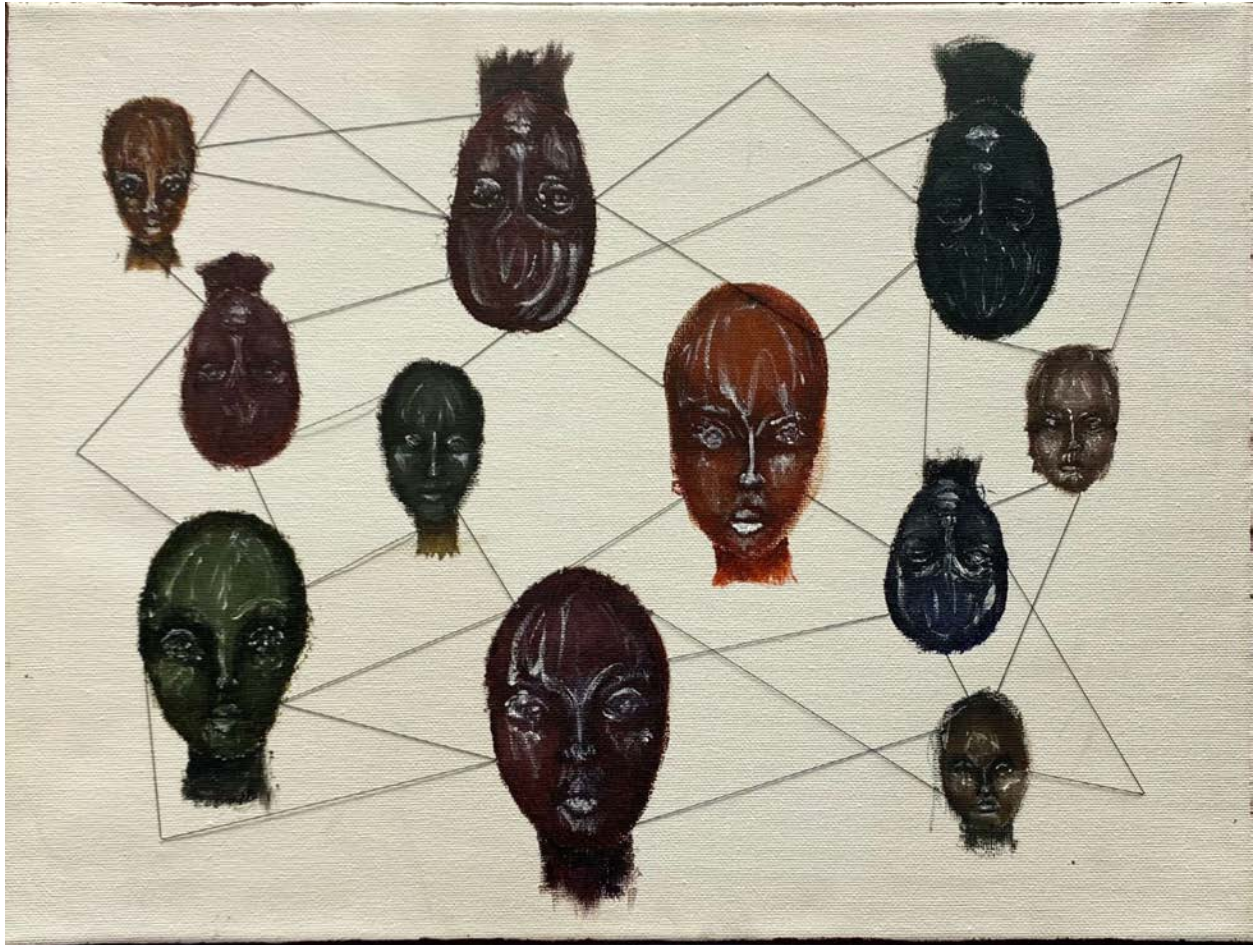
Fyra

Wooden Sculpture with Clay Figures

30.1 x 30 x 25.5 cm

This installation was inspired by Giacometti's art style and is composed of four clay heads propped up in different positions within a black painted wooden cage. It is meant to radiate feelings of nakedness, circulation of life, and in a sense, loneliness. The alternating positions of the plain clay heads depict moments within life and the various emotional encounters one goes through.

Artwork 6



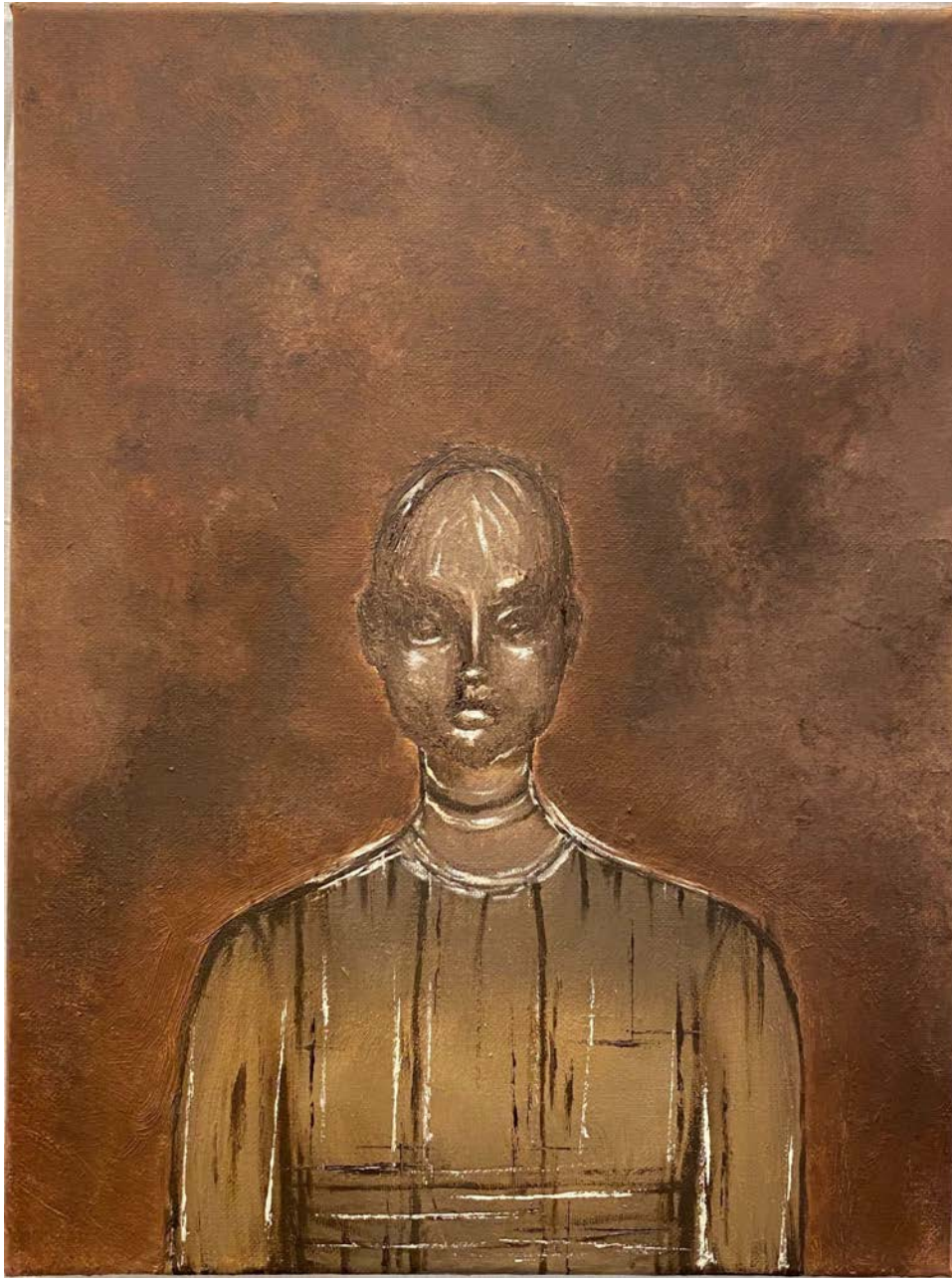
Faces

Oil and Stitches on Canvas

51.5 x 39 cm

Essentially, we are all connected in ways that often are too difficult to describe. This piece symbolises the interconnectedness between identities through simplicity. The geometrical stitches within the canvas embody the principle networks between various people.

Artwork 7



Her Lucid Complexion

Oil on Canvas

30 x 40 cm

This piece is the confinement of a woman's identity in a comprehensive view. She is void of most facial characteristics such as hair or eye colour. This however does not minimise the value of her presence. She is the embodiment of any other woman who seeks to identify themselves in her. The cold, lucid stare that she carries across her faces is only a mirage of her identity.

This is merely a representation of her identity on surface level.

Lauren Palega

Overview



Artwork 1

YouMe

Photograph
20 x 30 cm

YouMe was inspired by Irving Penn. In his work, the theme of creating stark contrast to highlight form is a recurring motif.

In a similar fashion, I created high contrast through manipulating shadow and light. I intended for this art piece's melancholy mood to engage the audience and cause them to take a moment to self reflect on how they treat others.

(below)



Artwork 2



Under Stress
Acrylic Painting
61 x 50 mm

This artwork is inspired by Edvard Munch's, *The Scream*, which is a glimpse into a specific moment when he had a panic attack (Watson, 2021). Similarly, my abstract styled-work is representative of a specific stress dream, having to do with my childhood cat. The background features swirling and defined brush strokes to draw attention towards the focal point. The contrast between the primary colors is intended to convey an unsettling mood.

Artwork 3



Happy Death Day!

Acrylic Painting

38 x 46 mm

The inspiration behind this concept is completely original and something that I have been meaning to create for a while.

The image depicts a birthday cake with cigarettes as the candles, which depicts thin figures reaching for the cake. The expressionist styled-work, represents how cigarettes will end up taking your life. The stark contrast of colors and clashing lines create an unsettling mood and should act as a warning, in honor of my Grandmother.

Artwork 4



Creeps up on You

Collage and Acrylic Painting

30 x 24 mm

Throughout my art journey I have developed an interest in exploring the theme of anxiety and the ways in which it can be expressed through different mediums. Accordingly, this works composition is a picture composed of smaller individual items, which represent stress related items and events. I added the black background to create depth and empty tone to draw attention to the focal point.

Artwork 5



D.A.R.E

Acrylic Painting

38 x 46 mm

This piece features a simple and overlapping defined line to create an uneasy mood. I intended to portray a warning of the effect of smoking through the juxtaposition between the pack of cigarettes and the skeleton overlaid on top. The basic structure of the artwork was chosen to draw attention to the deeper meaning of the work. The artwork is named after the Drug Awareness and Resistance Education program in honor of the subject matter.

Artwork 6



Entrapped

54 x 65 cm

The theme of this work is exploring the dark sides of humans. This concept and the brush strokes were inspired by my exploration into Lincoln Townley's. He uses distinct dagger-like and circular brush strokes to convey a sharp feeling in the audience. My artworks subject matter depicts a woman with strong factual features, exhibiting a muted mood. The lines and colors are the main dictator of the harsh mood in this artwork.

Artwork 7



Tip of the Iceberg

Photograph of Installation (12 x 16 cm)

20 x 30 cm

This installation, which was inspired by Olga Jervic, explores the juxtaposition between mass and space. The unsettling proportions of the smaller base upholding the heavy masses is representative of the anxiety, and can be interpreted in many ways. By exhibiting this unbalanced and busy composition, with overlapping slanted lines, I intend to convey a chaotic and unsettling mood.

Anna Sjöholm

Overview



Artwork 1

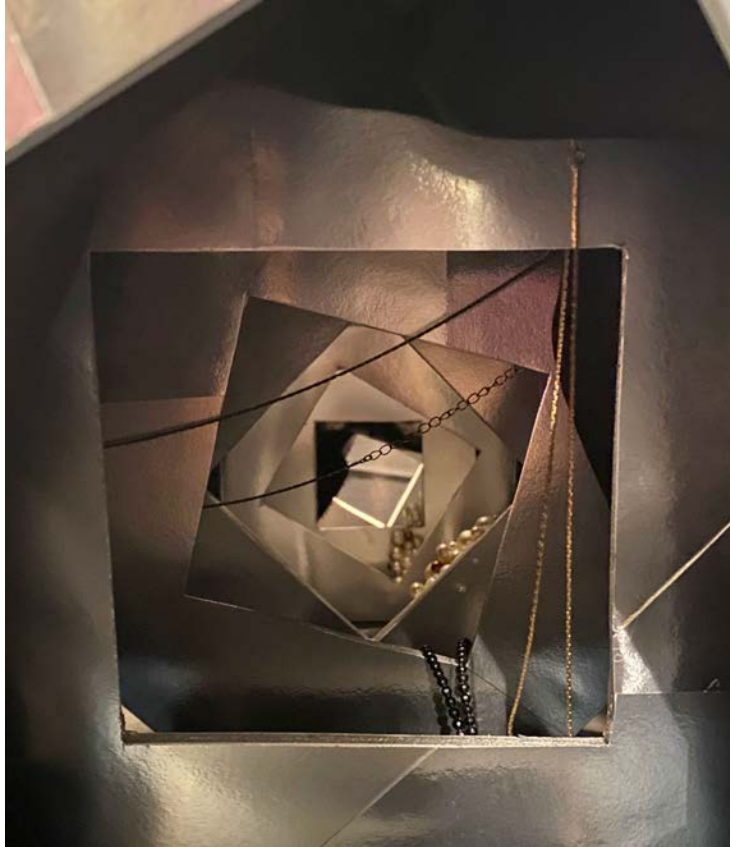
Light at the end of the tunnel

Mixed media sculpture

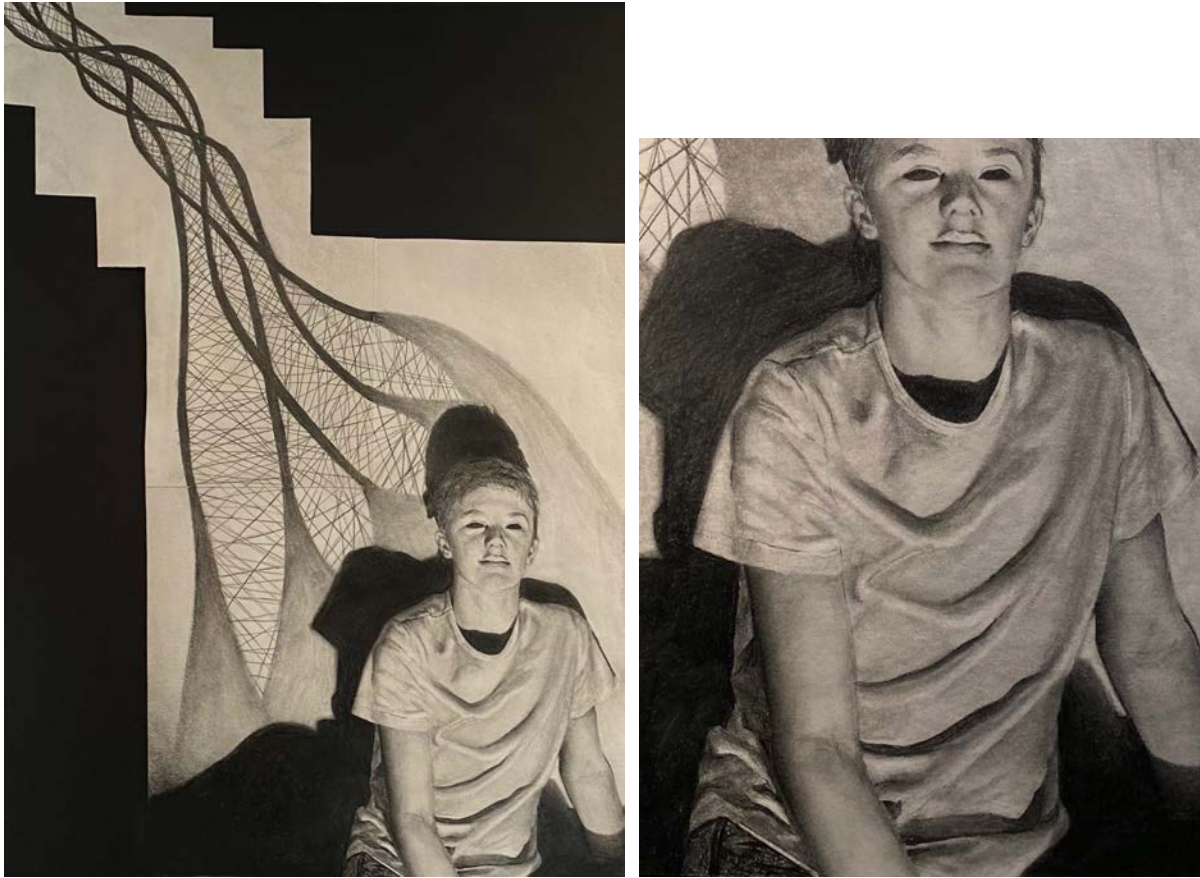
50 x 30 x 30 cm

For this work, I explore the figurative meaning of light and shadow. Its structure alludes to the expression “light at the end of the tunnel”, as indicated by the work’s title, and leads the viewer through each layer of the tunnel’s depth, with details such as reflective material and jewelry pieces to represent intrigue and contrast to its darkness. The small opening at the end and return of natural light symbolizes one’s eventual ‘triumph over evil’ in journeys and struggles through life.

(below)



Artwork 2

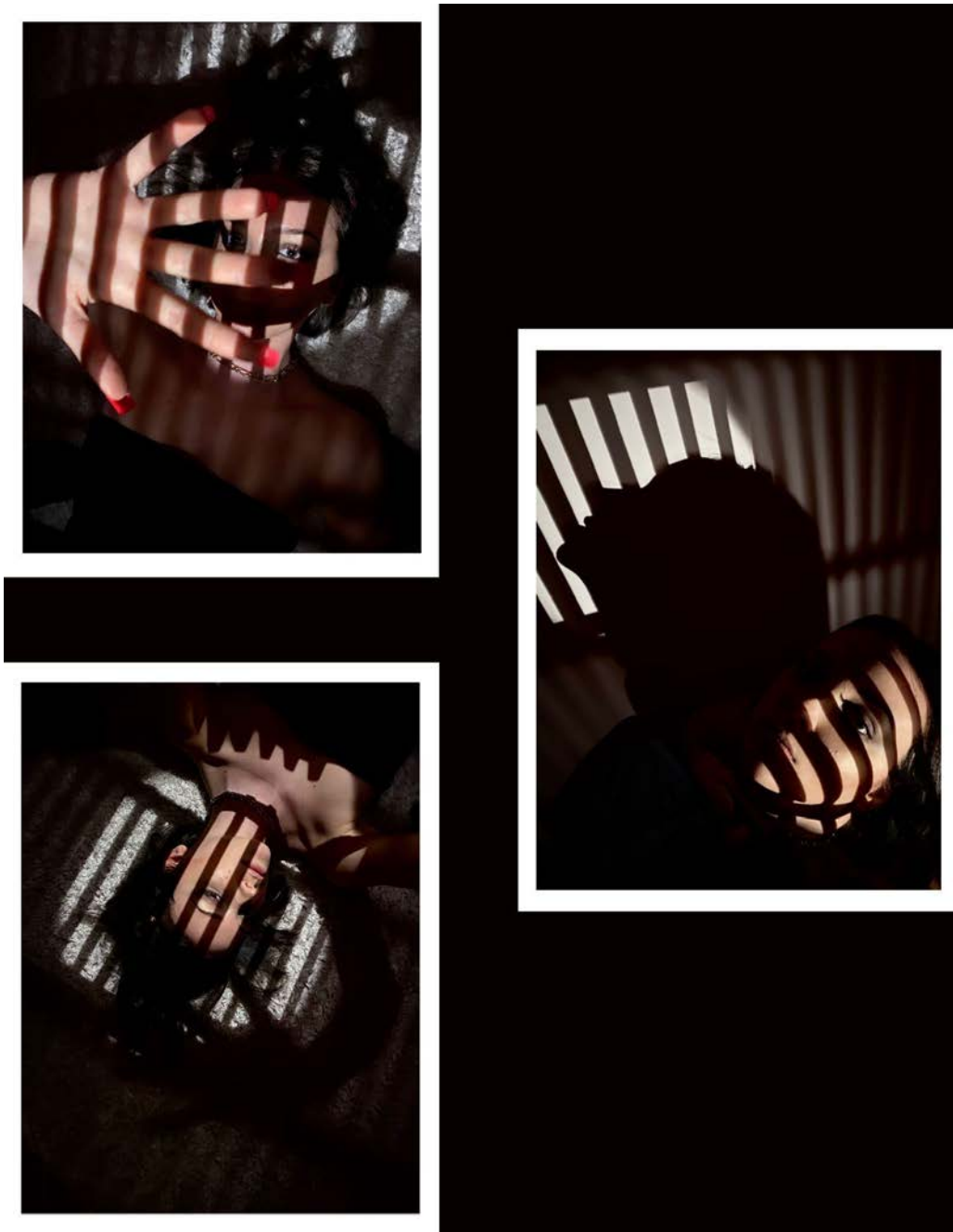


Behind their eyes

Pencil and charcoal drawing, 50 x 35 cm

For this work, I attempted to combine photorealism with surrealism. The contrast between the surrealist shadows cast onto the wall and the realistic image of the boy represents the relationship between appearance vs reality; one is often presented with an exterior appearance and unable to see further into the workings of another person's mind or emotions they experience. This is further indicated by the hollow eyes, resembling anonymity and creating the illusion of seeing into someone's reality.

Artwork 3



Natural distortion

Photography series

30 x 21 cm each

In my research, I took particular interest in the work of photographers Solve Sundsbo, George Mayer and Francis Giacobetti, as they focus on the natural manipulation of light in order to achieve intriguing images of their models. The contrast between the dark shadows and light areas instill the photos with a psychological intensity and communicate a tense and mysterious mood to the audience. When interpreting this style of photography myself, I worked with stencils, mirrors, and flashlights.

Artwork 4



Immaterial objects

Shadow installation using polystyrene board

50 x 30 cm

This artwork was inspired by Kumi Yamashita's 'shadow art', not only through her use of light and shadow, but also the relationship between material and immaterial components and how they are dependent on each other to form reality. This reality also consists of a balance between what is 'good' (light) and 'evil' (darkness), which captures how one cannot exist without the other. The image and light rays create the illusion of movement of the hands, a common thread throughout my body of work.