

Practitioner's Statement

Contentment

Emma Kiley

I sought for this practical to have a certain connection to my first practical but to embody a contrasting emotion. I felt a must to represent harmony, a peaceful atmosphere. To achieve this I selected the identical subject matter, my model, I wanted to place an emphasis on her hair as a recurring factor in both my practicals. In doing this I am aiming to emphasise a bond alluding to an underlying story emotion. The works of William Bouguereau and Anna Platten have continually captivated me; I've always felt enthused by Bouguereau's angelic compositions and Platten's indulgent use of colour, both artists being the inspiration of my second practical. I aspired to reinvent Bouguereau's Angel series and introduce it to a realistic setting. I've always felt a connection and fascination with these pieces, adoring his ideas and wanting to create my own virtuous emotion and atmosphere. To introduce this angelic representation I was inspired by Megan Roodenry's My Roses and Linen Series. Her compositions complete with folded white bed sheets create an elusion of soft clouds inviting a pure, fresh atmosphere, each innocent fold embodying a harmonious mood enveloping the resting body. With this idea I aspired to depict peace and comfort, I felt that through the security of a bed I could represent this metaphor. I wanted to reflect a dream like state, harmony, as if she was floating within a peaceful mind, like the sleeping of my anxious mind. Through this I decided to create an oil painting from a selection of photographs I had taken.

An atmosphere of amity was develop when taking these photographs and then furthermore when representing this into my oil painting. A sense of balance is released through the angelic composition and soft colours. Bouguereau's concept arose in my work revealing an uncanny similarity of composition to his piece, Evening Mood. I desired to express the harmonious melody I resonate with when viewing Bouguereau's works, the natural flow that seems to enthrall them. Through this medium and concept I anticipated to expose a softer more intimate side to my art, a nurturing, beauty that I needed to express.

I have discovered an entirely new medium, developing a love for oil paints. Through the mesmeric expression of colour in Platten's work I have realised an appreciation and understanding for colour and what emotion it withholds to express. I do feel that I want my overall painting to be softer more delicate as I feel this contributes to the mood and impression of the painting. My love for Bouguereau's Angel series primarily drove the central concept of this piece, which was only enhanced by Roodenry's My Rose and Linen Series adding the modern twist I required. I have realised from all three artist the intense importance of detail in order to apprehend the overall emotion expressed through a painting.

A sense of poise and clarity emanates through this piece, the protective quilt acting as the shield from reality reassures a mood of safety and comfort. The pure beauty sprawled on the cloud like mattress only enhances my concept. A state of clarity though the chaste white and electric blue, a warmth and safety is distinct through the peaceful expression on the subjects face. This painting acts as a visual symphony of my inexpressible emotions, the clarity and beauty that humanity is searching for in our frantic minds.