

## Practitioner's Statement

### ***Home away from home***

Georgie Greenslade

This practical is a series of six landscapes inspired by images of landscapes from each person in my boarding house corridor painted on sections of my school uniform stretched over canvas. The series includes two beachscapes from Elliston and Coffins bay, two country scenes from Maitland and Strathalbyn, a riverscape from Mildura and a cityscape from Fuzhou, China. Through this practical I have attempted to portray the connection that school has brought through the use of the school uniform. Although each boarder comes from different locations around Australia and the world we are all united by the school.

Originally inspired by 2015 Artist in Residence, Sophie Dunlop I explored forms of still life furthering to neutral, simplistic pieces of Italian artist Georgio Morandi and the sober style and soft lit paintings of Dutch artist Leon Spierenburg. Dunlop also recently worked plein air to capture the riverbeds in rural Australia which lead to my exploration into Australian impressionists, leading me to the loose expressive works of Grace Cossington Smith, Charles Conder and Janes Sutherland similar to my own personal painting style. These artists would be key to the style of my final paintings and reflected aspects of light, texture and a variety of landscapes including depictions of working Australia and leisurely beaches.

However, with intention to originally work in ink or pen on paper, previously explored in Stage 1 Art I planned on furthering my skills and studied the historic Japanese ink style of brush painting using black ink, Sumi-e. The advanced technical skill and precision required to achieve such painting style aided me in many further practices with different forms of media.

On exploring the identity of myself and the people surrounding me I begun looking at objects that identify people. Inspired by Jacqueline Jou's intricate detail in her miniature paintings on US pennies, I begun exploring paintings on alternate canvases. Following the exploration into artists Jess Mara, Fiona Hall and Deborah Paauwe I experimented on various alternate canvases, painting on objects such as spoons, fabric, tiles and ribbon. It was here I was drawn back to working with landscapes as a means of expressing ideas about being a boarder at Wilderness School. From here, painting on fabric in such ways as Emilie Faif allowed me to endeavour in different forms of landscapes and trial various forms of paint in attempt to produce the most effective works. Her work on clothing initiated my decision to use the school uniform, which also culminated my ideas.

The final series produced can be described as visually effective and successful in portraying personal connections to place to those the work draws upon. As well, I believe the work communicates a positive reflection on how my school has unified people from various areas around Australia and the world. I have developed a greater understanding of my own personal painting style and aesthetic, making stronger connections to groups of artists and their ideals, as well as fulfilling my desire to paint upon alternative, interesting canvases.