

Practitioner's Statement

Untitled

Mia Plasabas

Continuing with my fascination of surrealism and portraiture I concluded on focusing my artwork on the vivid imaginations explored by a child. My greatest influence was my home country and the times I spent as a child. Furthermore, I was strongly drawn to the idea of discovery and exploration that we inherit at such a young age, where we felt free to venture and not take anything for granted. The practitioners who predominantly influenced to further explore a child's imagination were Vincent Okerman, Marco Nabi and Happy D. Artist as they create artworks that are notably happy and surreal.

The concept of the artwork is to showcase the wild imaginations of a child, how it can be vast and unpredictable, similar to that of the universe. It is as though our minds are filled with theories and assumption but we still cannot determine whether they are real or just a fantasy. The galaxy influenced background was appropriated to help envisage a dream like fantasy that represents ones colourful imagination. This was influenced by Happy D. Artist's painting "daydreamer" where she immersed her subject into an ethereal universe. The portrait is intended to convey the emotions of a wondering child. Therefore, I focused on the details of the hand as I believe the form symbolizes the mind of a bewildered child that has escaped reality to venture into their own imagination. This emotion being portrayed of being content or perplexed is similar to Marco Nabi's artworks. Where a child is content with their own creativity but is still perplexed by the concept of what is real or not. The concept of creating an artwork that visualizes a child's imagination was influenced by Vince Okerman's unique doodle artworks. I aimed to capture the unexpectedness mind of a child through the different variation of colours used within the painting.

I enjoyed the process of creating my final artwork as it allowed me to further develop my knowledge on the techniques of painting portraiture and enabled me to express my passion for surrealism and a child's imagination. The concept of this artwork is to convey the message of freedom. To allow the audience to envisage their memories as a child where we immersed ourselves and ventured into our own surreal universe. Where we felt free of fear, safe from violence and protected from exploitation and just allowed our minds to be filled with joy and creativity.