

Practitioner's Statement

Enchanted

Tahlia Zadow

In the initial periods of creating this final piece, I focused on those I drew the most inspiration from. I concluded that those with incredible strength whom surround me inspired me. From here I wanted to further explore my ideas through a relationship between a young child and a wild animal. I looked at different wild animals that portrayed strength to me. Needless to say, I chose a wolf. My ideas involved a child looking up in such admiration at a wolf that portrayed strength.

Looking at different ways to portray the wolf, I decided that I identify with them the most when they howl. Their beauty and strength prevails when they are howling. I also explored many different ways to portray the child, who I decided to entail to look innocent and be in wonder at the strength that would be beside her. Using my illustrative abilities I thought I would best portray this idea by creating a two-dimensional square piece. Further to this, the artists Sarah Jane and Furry Little Peach heavily inspired my work as I was greatly encouraged by their paintings that included relationships between children and animals, and by exploring their work I was able to practice with tones of a piece, but also further my technical abilities.

The colours of the piece were selected with great care, making sure that they complimented and supported each other. I chose my favorite blue for the background as this allowed for great depth and distance to be created.

I took great care with the composition of the piece, using the rule of thirds as a guide, being sure to create a strong sense of foreground, middle ground and background. To heighten the relationship between these three depths, I tried to restrict each to a range of value, favoring the deep blue greys, the bright blues, and then the light wash blues. The background is predominantly a dark blue grey, the middle ground is predominantly the bright blues, and the foreground is predominantly the light wash blues. By restricting the colour of the trees in these areas I reinforced the overall sense of depth.

I believe that the theme of 'admiring strength' is encapsulated in my painting, both seen through the expressions of the young girl, and strength visible from the wolf. Using my illustrative style in order to create a background full of depth, created a magical scene. The way the piece holds the wolf and child makes the tone of the piece warm and inviting. The structure of the piece has reiterated the notion of an enchanted relationship, one that I value greatly.