## Neon Night Life

## **Hayley Henke**

*Neon Night Life* is a series of three photos that has been captured through photography and will be presented in black frames. *Neon Night Life* was created in a small dark room with a black background to create that night affect. I then set up and used still life objects and mirrors along with coloured lights to create how the photos look now. By manipulating and playing around with the lighting and angles of the camera I was then able to capture reflections from the mirror, rebounding what I had then set up.

The artist that inspired me to start using the different coloured lighting was Emily Wilson who was a sace example for 2020. After seeing her own work and reading her statement of intent her work inspired me to try it out myself. I created the series of three photos because I had an interest in the lighting and the way she had captured the body parts in such a close frame. This series of three photos have been captured using mirrors and different coloured lighting. The theme is *Neon Night Life* and represents things coming to life after dark. By using a range of colourful lights it has highlighted the flowers beautiful and natural features.

Artists that have influenced my work has been Emily Wilson with her artwork of *Knot / Entrelace / Bloom.* By seeing the way she had used body parts she inspired my first steps which then led me to have more and even better ideas. Maggie west was then my other artist that influenced my work because of her use of colour and close up of the females being so close together. But also the way she included another element which was the smoke also turned out to make the photo a lot better. By using both these similar artists I was then able to incorporate their colour usage and create something magical with using objects like the flowers and glass.

After looking at Emily Wilsons sace artwork I was then able to have an idea which then helped me experiment many other ideas like using flash, mirrors, movement and coloured lighting. Throughout the folio I gained a much deeper understanding of different techniques and was able to incorporate it into my work. By being able to experiment I was then able to understand what I was trying to discover within my own artwork, this then led me to creating the amazing series of *Neon Night Light*.

The final three photos turned out really well after being edited in photoshop to make them more vibrant, but to also make the objects stand out. When experimenting I never came across any problems but choosing my final three was tough as I had so many different and unique photos. By being able to create and capture such life through a lens, it has been able to show that everything in life happens for a reason, but life at night is a whole different story.