

Arrow

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The inspiration behind my first practical was the passion I have for horses, equestrian and my personal horse "Arrow". My Final piece is very personal to me as it is a portrait of my horse and I personally photographed all of the reference photos used for my Intaglio engraved prints. To put a twist of creativity to this artwork, I decided to combine two a compositions using two very Medias, Charcoal and Printmaking.

Prior to choosing the media I put a lot of thought into how the emotion and meaning would be expressed about my horse. I wanted to express the beauty and strength of horses in the charcoal portrait where using the additional intaglio prints to share the "detail" and assorted associated objects that make up horses and the equestrian environment.

I was very influenced to research and produce my own equine art because of all of the study and exploration I did in my visual study on Equine Art. The artist that I got a lot of inspiration from included Yvette Frahn, Benedicte Gele and Vanessa Whittell. While generating ideas, I was originally going to use one medium, as my exploration continued I could not decide on which medium I wanted to use. A suggestion to mix mediums led me to explore the mixing of charcoal, oil pastel and printmaking. All of these mediums had appealing characteristics but after exploration I decided on using charcoal and printmaking because of how effective they worked together.

I have visually told the story of horses and equestrian through the visual information included. I decided to have the entire practical mono toned so that the prints did not take away from the focal point of the main charcoal portrait. The charcoal portrait is a very realistic well detailed representation of my horse "Arrow". By using charcoal it allowed me to focus closely on the detail and tonal values of the horse. The charcoal portrait is very bold and the emotion portrayed reflects his personality, as strong and peaceful as Arrow is in real life. The addition of the intaglio prints around the outside adds another element to the story. Each print is individual and shares an important detail of either the horse, or parts of equestrian gear and my personal riding clubs. All of these small thing make up the equestrian and my love for horses.

I believe my artwork shares my horse and the sport of equestrian with the viewer in a positive and beautiful way. The use of Charcoal for the portrait of Arrow was very effective and the support of the Intaglio prints acting as a border to the portrait really emphasizes and compliments the portrait while adding to the story.

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