

Forever a Memory

Hannah Mackenzie

I have lived and moved between houses to find a home. Home is the place where I feel at my most comfort and safest, whereas a house is a place where I know that I'll be moving out to the next house. I took all the houses I have lived in as my inspiration to create my final composition.

I began my journey by revisiting all the different houses I have grown up in and exploring the properties to capture the essence of the house and picturesque gardens. During this time, I discovered that the houses I grew up in all had their own memories, and their own unique differences within the walls. Using acrylic paint techniques of artist Patrick Caulfield and the fine line, and soft water colour techniques by artist David Gentleman, I studied the elements and structures of the houses. From experimenting with these techniques, I explored the ways that I could incorporate both fine line and acrylic.

When moving from house to house filing and emptying boxes became part of the process. The idea of using a packing box to represent the house fitted my theme. Additionally on the sides of each house I added the year I moved in and moved out. During this time my life changed in many ways, my parents separated and later divorced, my memories and emotions are linked to each property. Each property has a special memory good or bad, positive or negative.

After taking these pictures, I began to paint the boxes white. I decided that there needed to be an element of colour, in which I explored painting each number on the house a significant colour that in some way represented that house. The inspiration for this installation developed from the impact of having to move to many houses, as well as, trying to settle down and finally have a house that feels like home. Each of the boxes represent the form of moving a house and packing up belongings, with each of the houses on the front. Each house number represents a colour in which forms a memory that I created in the house such as 28 being pink in which there are these beautiful pink flowers. The boxes are all different sizes from large too small to create an interesting construction.

The final composition represents the construction of all the houses and homes I have lived in, where I created longing memories. Each with significant elements within the structure, with the fine line pen giving detail throughout the houses. The number creates an element of colour in which distinguishes a memory in that certain house. Amongst all the houses, it shows the harsh reality of having to move and trying to settle down. Although within these houses the foundation of my family was built, and without those memories and houses we would not be who we are now.

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