

## A Year

### Georgia Murray

'A Year' is a multimedia collage made up of copic-markers, layers. Each element of the collage is representative of my most important year yet, my final school year. This year has been simultaneously, the best and worst year of my life. I have made new friends, have strengthened relationships that I already had, and pushed myself further than I thought possible. But I have also watched relationships crumble and have been under the most pressure I've ever experienced. All these images relate to my last year at school.

The cropped copic-marker head is my boyfriend whom I've grown to love this year. The dogs express the movement and personality of my young dog. The school building highlights the large influence that school has had on my life; the bee reminds me that bees swarmed around the art room in the first semester. The girl lying on the chair is Anoushka, whom I have grown closest to than ever before. The photograph on the sidewalk is another friend, Oliver, who takes incredible photos. Together we have been going out into the city to take photos since the start of the year. The hands represent the intimacy and support I've found in my loved ones and finally, the 'broken glass' and the pencil lines represents all the breakdowns, the noise, chaos and screaming that have also made their way into my year and deserve recognition.

I was inspired by artist Laurel Arts who works in mixed media with copic markers in a colourful and realistic style, by overlaying markers to build up tone and form. Watercolour and fine pen are the primary media of Alvaro Vaddeo. His style is like mine, so influenced me with his drawings of interesting objects embedded into quirky environments. The watercolour allows translucency and overlays of tone and colour which assisted in creating movement. During my folio, I struggled with establishing which drawings I was going to include in the composition as I had many drawings to choose from. Collage depends on how well the shapes work together so it was difficult to pick individual elements. I resolved this by using similar colours which were common throughout. I also scanned the drawings to arrange them digitally using Adobe Illustrator to see if altering the scale of individual drawings would help the composition.

While this did work to some extent, I felt that the printed image didn't look as authentic as the original drawings. The circular arrangement of images worked successfully. The foam tape was used to raise and layer parts of the collage to allow shadows and depth to be created. By drawing the red and yellow pencil lines behind the images, helped unite the collaged drawings and Perspex and express the circle of this year from the beginning to the end.