

Sej

## Sukhsehaj Sidhu

In the initial stages of developing my Major #1, I really had become interested in self-portraits expressions of individuality, since I am also a student of Stage 2 psychology, I really enjoyed the study of personality and the experiences that make up an individual and wanted to reflect the central theme of "What makes us, us?" I explored the central theme of individuality, by essentially reflecting on the experiences that had shaped me as a person. And my future dreams. For the development of my Major 1, I looked at the artworks of Jean Michel Basquiat. I really liked his style of Neo-expression in the Early to Late 80s. Primarily, his portrait of his best friend Andy Warhol really helped me find the overall "style" of my portrait. I am not fond of the realism art movement, because I feel that all art should be personal so over the development of my Major, I have found my own personal aesthetic, similar to artists such as Basquiat and David Carson.

My parents had moved from India to Australia when I was only two, and as an Indian male, I have learnt to embrace the colour of my skin and my cultural heritage. I have incorporated my culture in my Self-Portrait, I have done this by sketching symbols that reflect me as a person and my experiences. Such as the Flag of India, Sikh symbol of the Khanda. The Canadian maple leaf, since I visited Canada to visit my extended family, and the Adelaide Malls balls representing my home. Certain references for my education in psychology class can also be found such as my personality type. Also, some random doodles, as Basquiat would add hidden drawings to reflect the style of a child.

I have also added phrases that mean a lot to me such as "NYC" since, I travelled to New York city for my 18th. "ADL" an abbreviated name for my home city. "LIGHTS CAMERA ACTION" professional jargon of the entertainment industry, as I want to study media in university. "DEBATING" and "RED AND BLACK" as I was the debating captain of Rostrevor College. "SO, CAL! GREATEST STATE" is a popular saying in America referring to the city of Los Angeles, as It is my personal dream to be an actor. The typography in my Artwork was done using markers as Basquiat uses miscellaneous words in his artwork to further reinforce the controlled chaos style.

I have used deep colour paint brushes, to reflect the grittiness of Jean Michel Basquiat's artworks, rather than employing refined and intricate strokes from smaller brushes, I have employed large paint strokes to give the same grittiness that Jean Michel Basquiat employs in his artwork. Rather than trying to blend all the paint strokes, for I have gone for more of a flat brush look for the aesthetic. Even though some paint strokes overlap, I have made the effort to make each paint stroke its own. The background is green to reflect my high school house of Murphy since year 8.