



# Art and Design

## A level

Jenny Durdey



Year13 -Oil on canvas 1.5m x 1m

'Capturing the characteristics of animals in painting and illustration'

# A Level Art and Design: Fine Art

Are you impressed by the A level Art work around school?

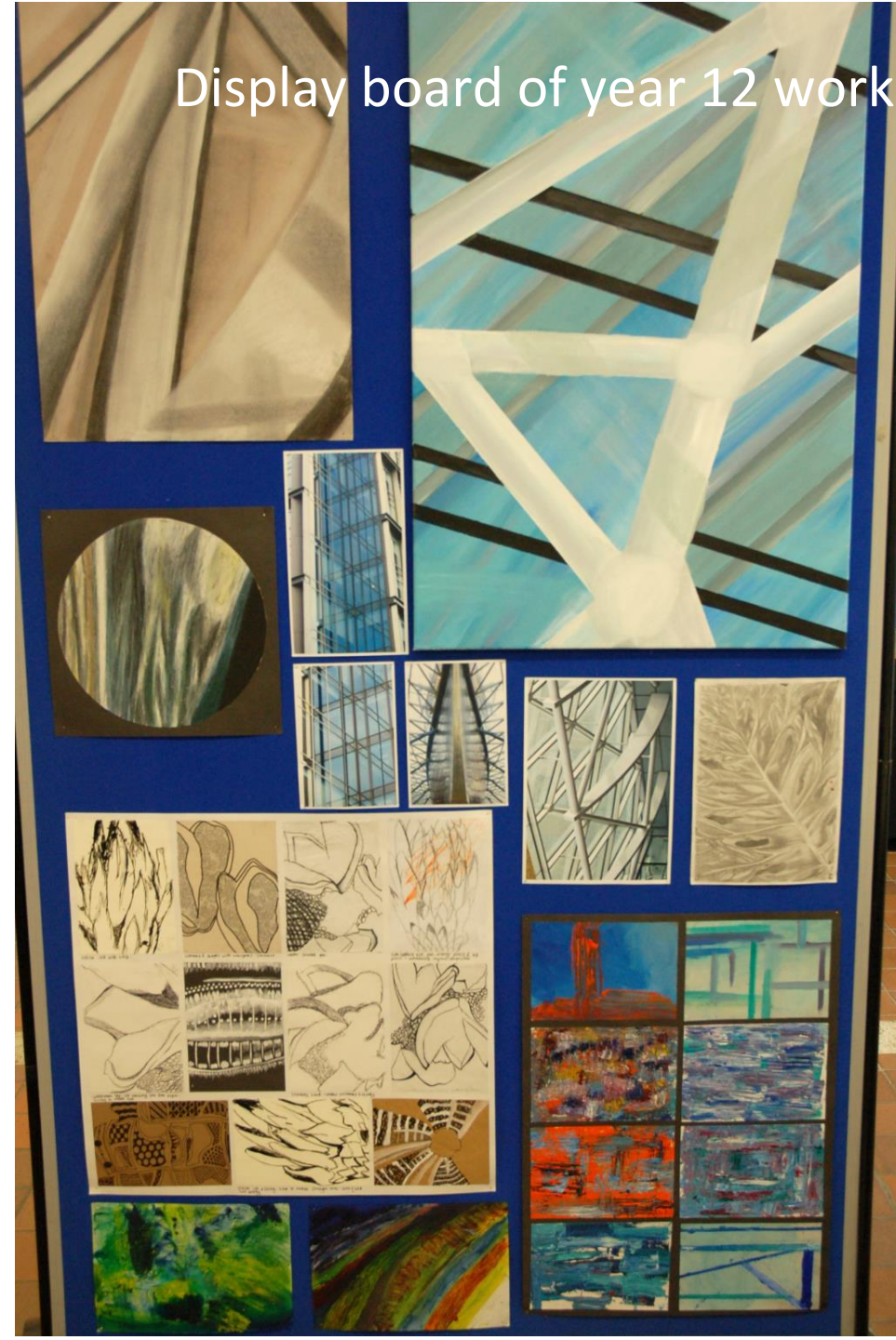
Would you like to reach this quality of work?

Your work could be the next large pieces on display.

On this course you will develop your skills and confidence considerably.

If you are creative, enthusiastic, motivated, willing to take risks and try your best then do consider A level Art and Design.

Display board of year 12 work





Year13 -Oil on canvas  
1m x 1.5m  
Exploration of  
Perspective

# AQA Art and Design: Fine Art Course Structure.

## Year 12:

The first year of this course gives you time to develop skills and prepare for your assessed A level work in year 13. You will learn the following:

**Exploration of new techniques, ideas, materials.**

Oil painting, working on canvas, using the easels, working on a large scale, mixed media, printmaking, 3D work, approaches to drawing and painting. Your own photography is developed to explore ideas within the set themes.

**Develop knowledge of artists' work.**

You will develop skills in writing about artists' work. Examples of artists include: Anselm Kieffer, Charles Sheeler, Turner, Lucien Freud, Tai-Shan Schierenberg, Vermeer.

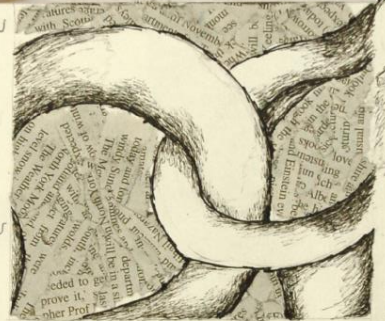
In the first two terms you are given two themes as starting points to develop your work. This year we used 'portraiture' in term 1 and 'structures' in term 2 as our themes. These are likely to be the same next year.



# Year 12 A3 sketchbook pages



chosen the lines of the chain  
a cross over lines in the  
image. Both show  
the 'within' the lines,  
metal structure, made to  
into curved links, forming  
val, functional object.  
looked a tone + texture. The  
of the paint creates a  
the pattern.



Biro  
+ dilute  
ink



newspaper, ink + dilute  
white acrylic



I like the fluidity of motion within this image. I also like the negative space and how the contained spaces themselves create a pattern eg scales.

Fine liner - creating shapes



Peeling off masking tape



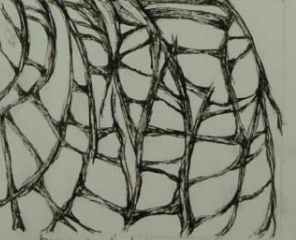
Fine liner pos space



Positive space



Fine liner drawing



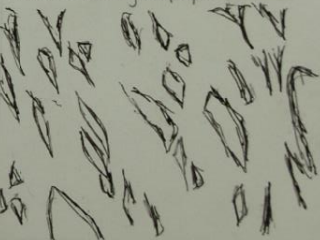
Biro and dilute ink



Negative space w newspaper

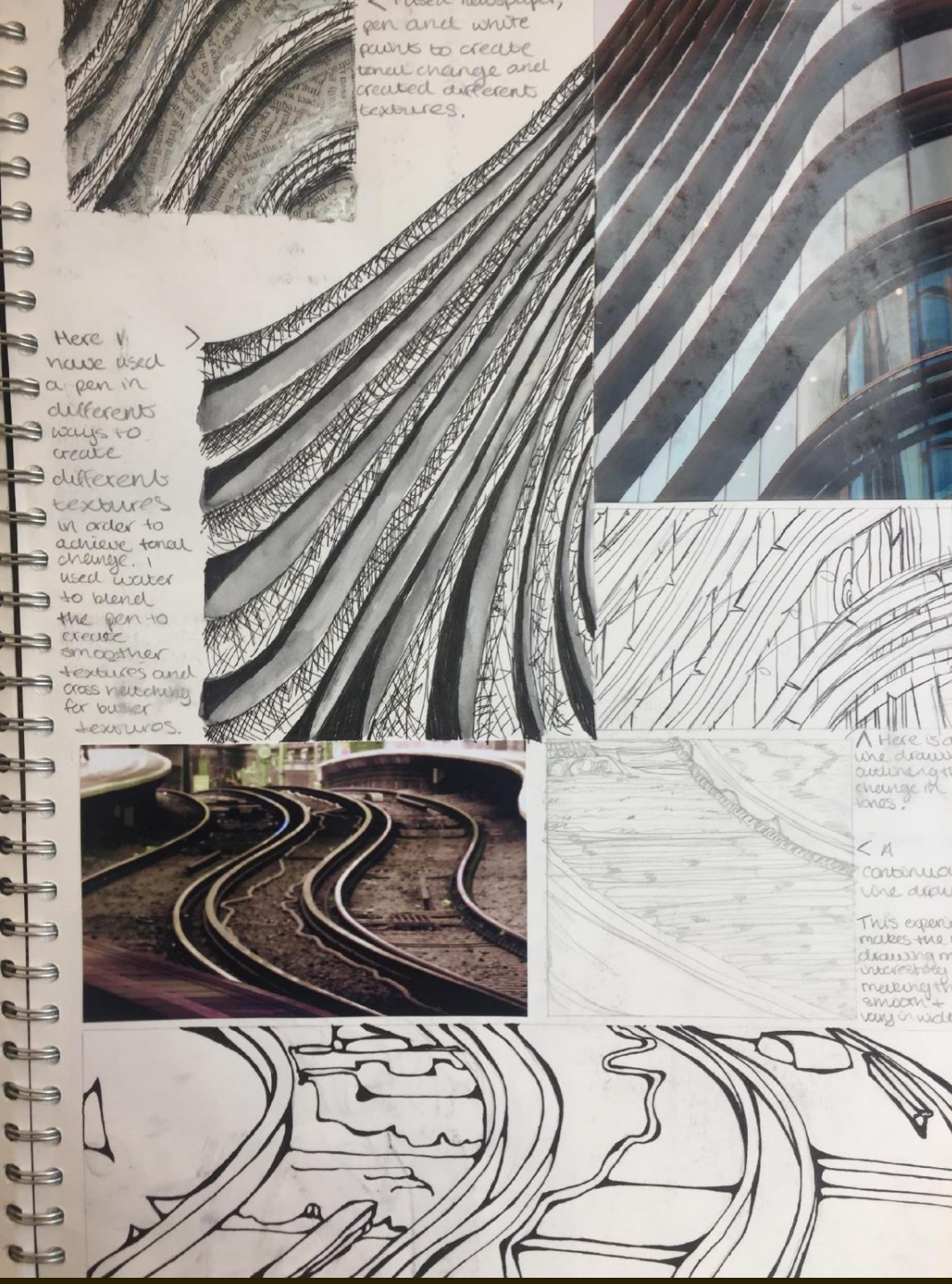


without looking at paper



This is a acrylic painting looking at the vibrant colours of rust contrasting into the turquoise cool colours in the background to enhance the contrast I could have used brighter and warmer shades of orange and used even more vibrant colours in areas of highlight. I think that I could have painted this in much greater detail and depth. From this photograph you can see the texture of the rust. I have missed mimicking

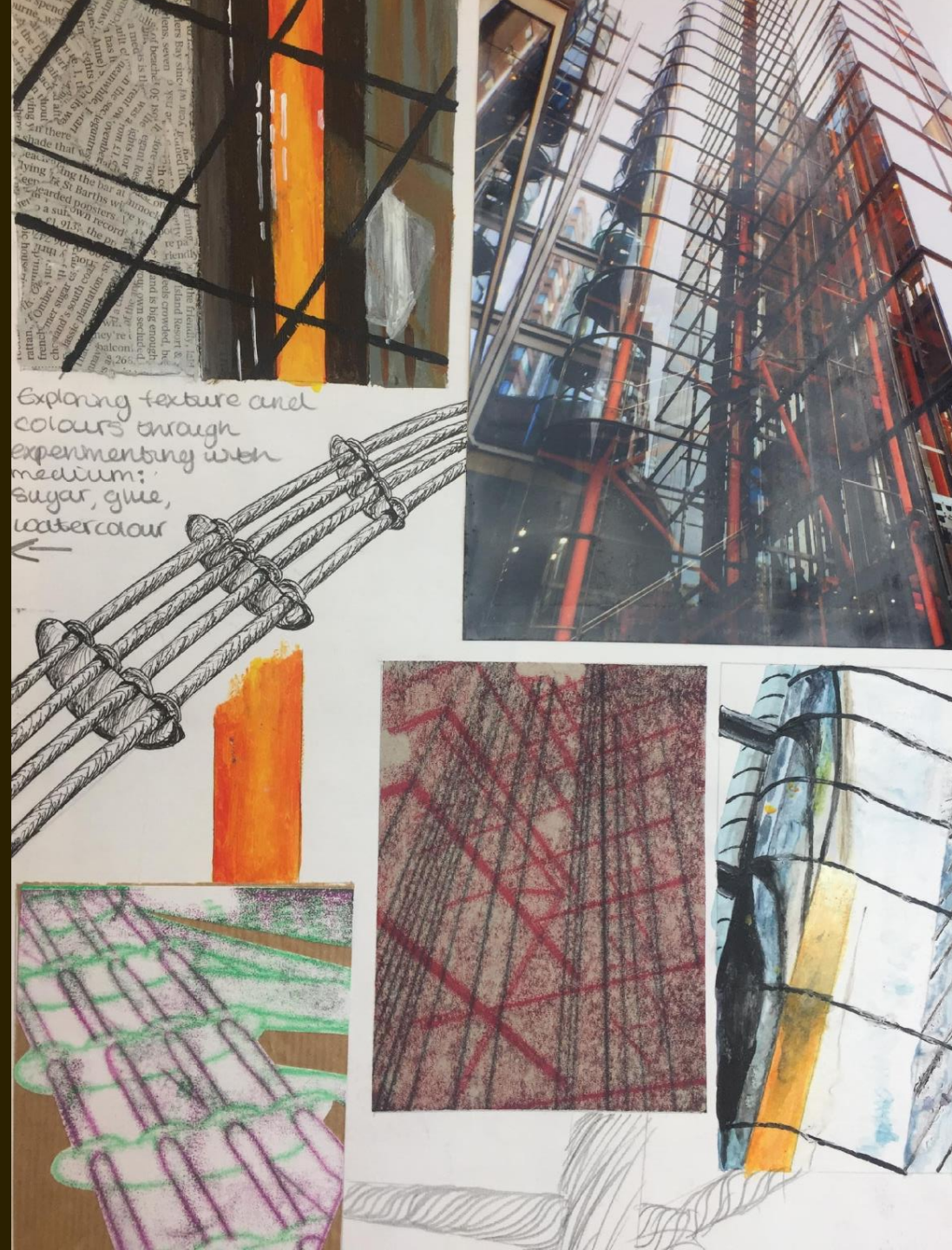
A collage of various artworks mounted on a blue background. The top left features three rectangular photographs of power lines. To their right are two small abstract paintings with blue and white swirling patterns. Dominating the top right is a large abstract painting with a complex, branching, root-like structure in shades of blue and white. Below the power line photos is a circular photograph showing a view through a window with vertical bars. To the right of this is a large, vertical abstract painting with a grid-like pattern of light brown lines. In the middle left, there is a small abstract painting with green and blue swirling patterns. To its right is a small painting of a forest scene with tall, thin trees. Further right is a small abstract painting with a grid-like pattern of light brown lines. Below these are three small rectangular photographs: one of a power line, one of a forest scene, and one of a grid-like pattern. At the bottom left is a large grid of 12 small sketches, each depicting a different abstract or figurative scene. To the right of this grid is a large, vertical abstract painting with a grid-like pattern of light brown lines. At the bottom right is a small abstract painting with a grid-like pattern of light brown lines.

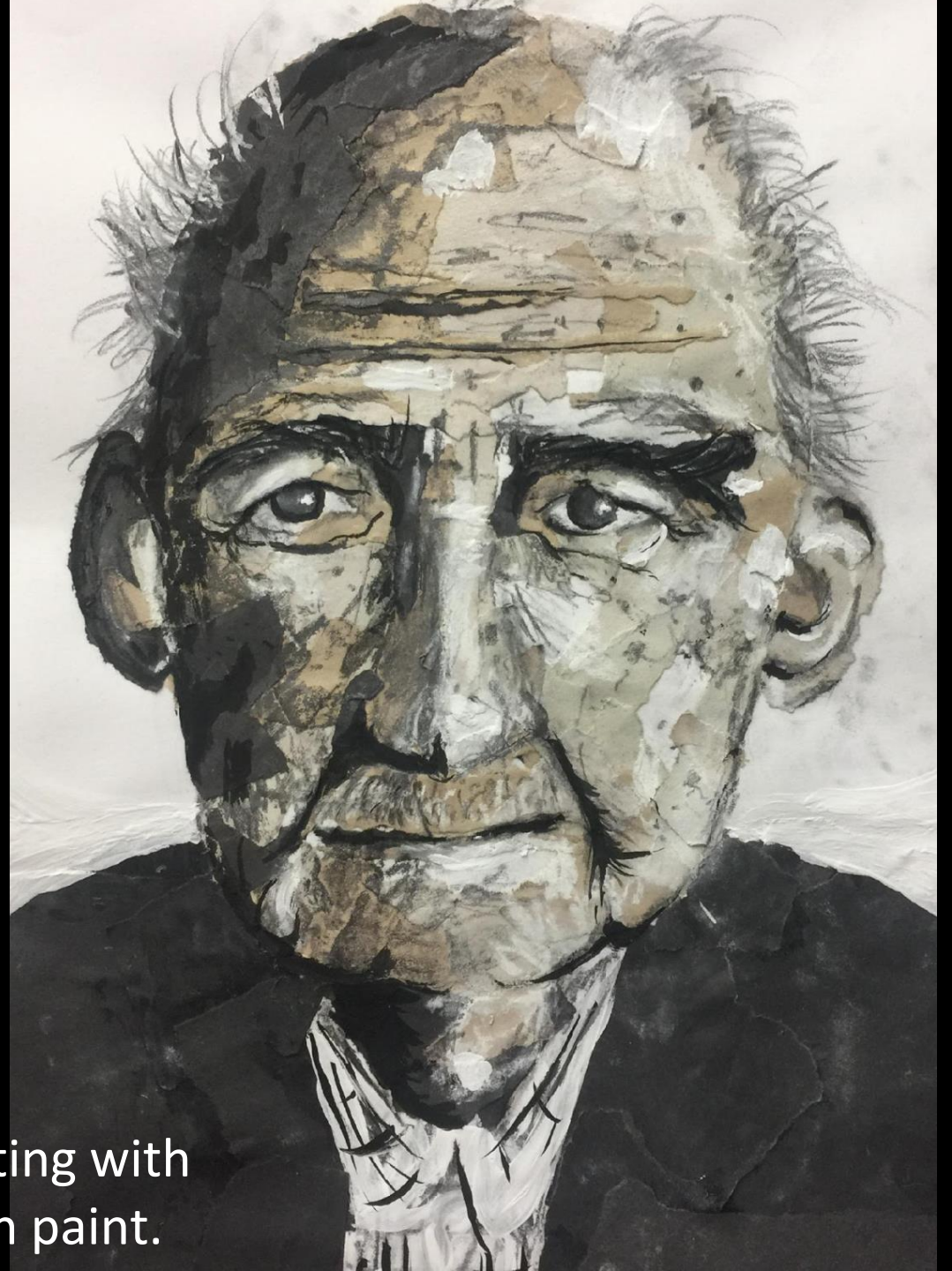


year12  
A3  
sketchbook  
pages



A watercolor illustration of a modern building with a blue glass facade and a white geometric pattern, set against a background of a city street with a yellow building and a tree. The illustration is done in a soft, painterly style with visible brushstrokes and a muted color palette. The building in the foreground has a prominent white geometric pattern on its facade. The background shows a city street with a yellow building and a tree. The overall composition is a vertical view looking down a street.





Yr12 A1 tonal drawings exploring mixed media, starting with collage then adding chalk, charcoal, ink and emulsion paint.

Year 12  
A1 collage  
based on  
architectural  
structures





# **AQA Art and Design: Fine Art**

## **Course Structure.**

### **Year 13:**

#### **Component 1: Personal Investigation – 60%**

This is a practical project of your own choice. You use and continue to develop skills learnt in year 12. Your project is supported by an illustrated essay of 1000-3000 words. Your chosen theme is discussed and started towards the end of year 12. Students often choose to do a very large painting on canvas as their final piece for this component. The preparation, essay and final outcome are submitted for assessment.

#### **Component 2: Externally Set Assignment – 40%**

You choose from 8 titles set by the exam board as a starting point for your own project. After approximately 10 weeks of preparation, you have 3 days to produce a final outcome. The preparation and final outcome are submitted for assessment.

These 2 components are marked internally and moderated externally as with your GCSE.



Final work for component 1. Oil on board.  
'Can hands express as much emotion as the face'



Final painting for component 1. Oil on canvas 1.5m x 1m 'Identity'

Final painting for  
component 2  
'Surfaces'



# **Much of what you develop in A level Art and Design are valuable transferable skills.**

The following transferable skills are included in the assessment criteria:

- Independent study and development of personal ideas
- Analytical and critical thinking
- Critical reflection
- Experiment, take risks, review
- Develop insight
- A coherent use of language
- Make connections
- Observation
- Recording observations, ideas, insights

# What careers does A level art and design lead to?

Many of our art students have studied BA and MA degrees in fine art, graphics, architecture, digital arts, animation, film, design and textiles at prestigious universities. This has led to a wide range of careers for them.

The link below gives you a really good insight into the value of the creative industries. You can also click on interviews with lots of artists and designers.

<https://creativejourneyuk.com/>

# Some of the careers in the creative sector

- Graphic Design
- Architecture
- Illustration
- Animation
- Photography
- Fashion
- 3D Design
- Interior Design
- Stage Design
- Art Conservation
- Jewelry Design
- Gallery Curator
- Exhibition Organiser
- Textile Designer
- Landscape Gardener
- Product Design
- Digital Artist
- Publishing
- Interior design
- Costume design

# Benefits of studying art if you are heading for a career outside creative industries.

The transferable skills have already been listed in slide 17

The link below is an interesting talk by Dr Fay Penrose about the relevance of studying art for medical students. Attached here is an extract from this lecture:

## **Drawing for Learning in Anatomy**

**How does being able to draw help a vet student?**

- Improves observational skills
- Helps engage with the material
- Helps learn facts
- Helps with revision
- A succinct drawing is much more efficient at conveying complex information than reams of text
- Drawing communicates with others
- Other benefits- good mental health

<https://www.accessart.org.uk/drawing-for-learning-in-anatomy/>

# A level Art and Design counts towards UCAS points when applying to top universities.

## **Pupils should mix arts and science, says woman leading Russell Group**



Teenagers should take a mixture of art and science A-levels to broaden their horizons, the first woman to lead the Russell Group of elite universities says.

Dame Nancy Rothwell said that many young people missed out because they specialised in subjects too early.

[The leading neuroscientist](#) and vice-chancellor of Manchester University took A-levels in maths, physics, chemistry and art. She became chairwoman of the Russell Group last month, just before she turned 65.

In her first media interview since the appointment she said that she would support a restructuring of GCSEs and A-levels. “I worry that in the UK we specialise very early for young people and I think we miss out,”.

Extract from: [Nicola Woolcock](#), Education Correspondent Saturday October 24 2020, 12.00pm, The Times

Exhibition  
of yr12  
and13 work



Exhibition  
of yr12 and  
13 work



# In summary

- Produce work you will be proud of
- Work in a creative and supportive environment
- Year 12: you develop your skills, produce 2 projects of work
- Year 13: component 1 and component 2 are the assessed projects
- Develop transferable skills, valuable in aspects of life and careers
- The creative industries are a growing sector of the economy
- Good drawing skills are also valuable outside the creative industries
- Art is a recognized subject by Russell group universities
- Studying art gives you a balanced curriculum

For further information or if you would like to look at some A level sketchbooks email me: [j.Durdey@roundwoodpark.co.uk](mailto:j.Durdey@roundwoodpark.co.uk)