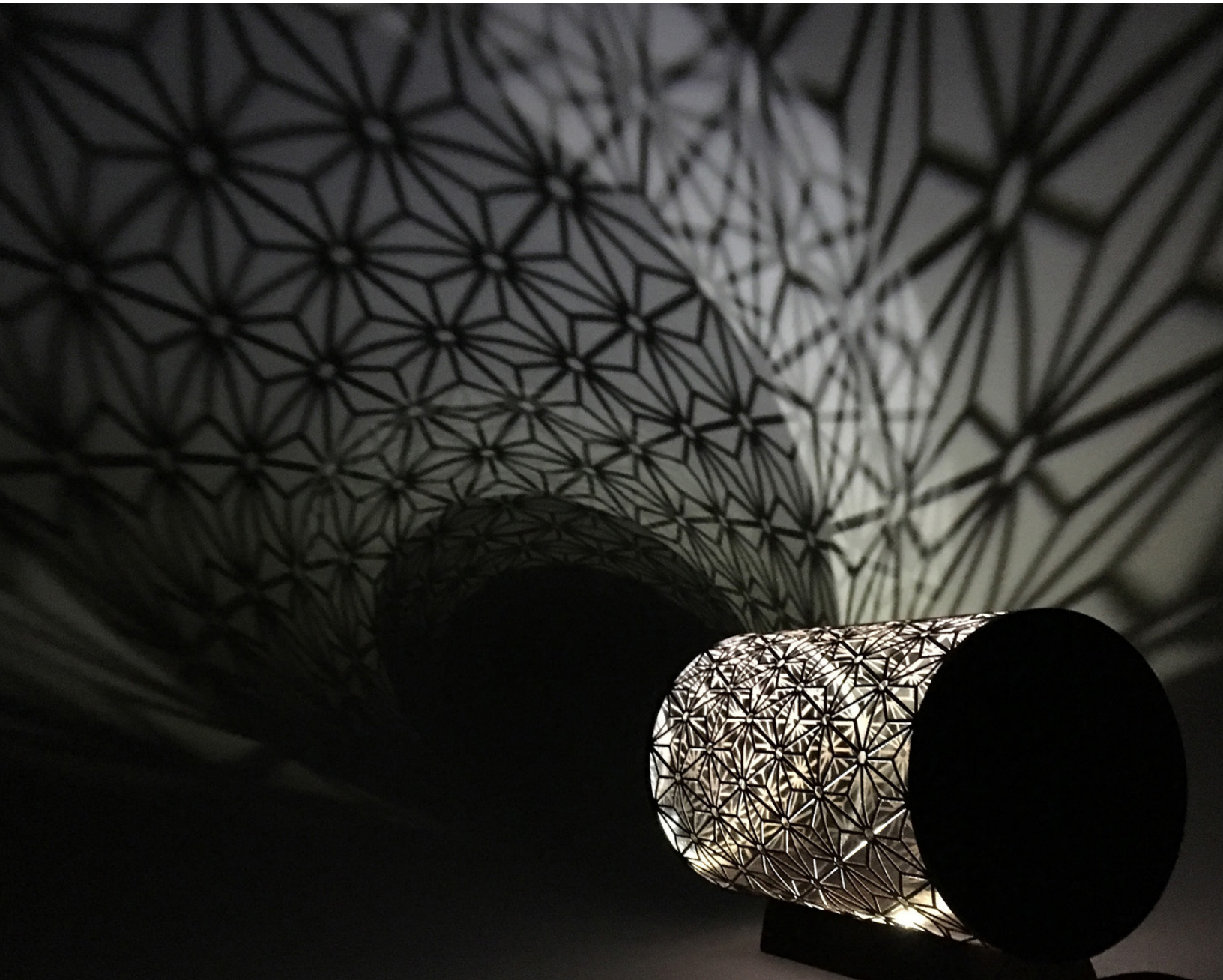
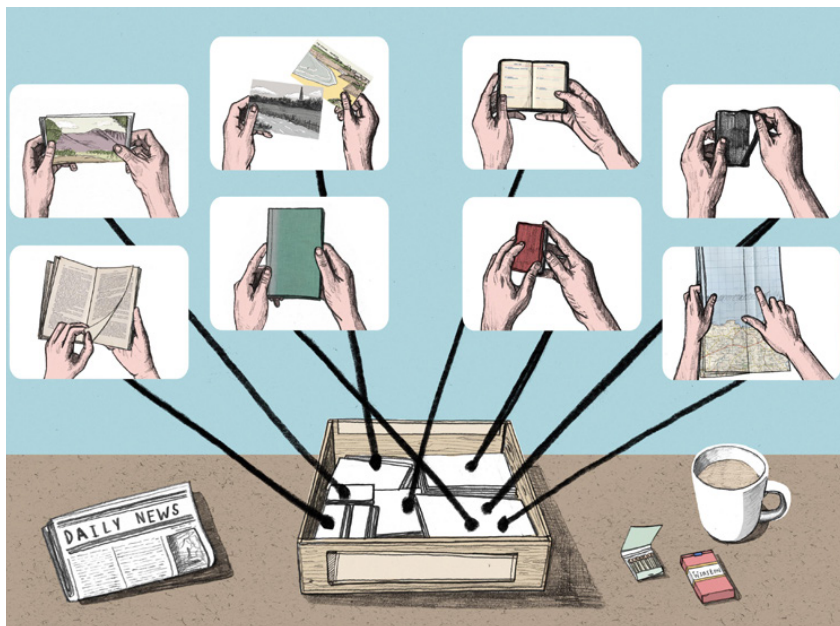
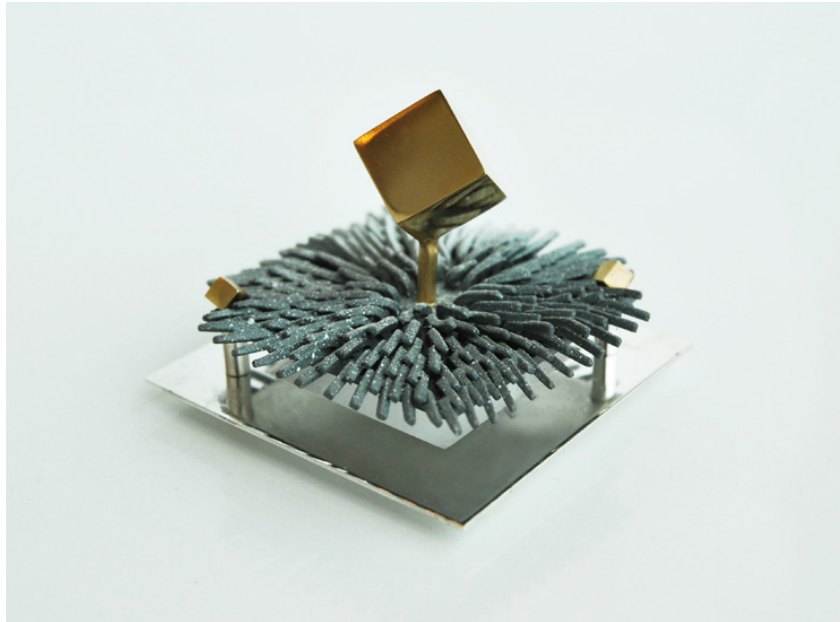


Mission Gallery

Graduate Showcase 2016

*Supporting excellence, nurturing development and pushing the boundaries of
Visual & Applied Art, Design and the Moving Image.*





Graduate Showcase 2016

2 August - 4 September 2016

Supporting excellence, nurturing development and pushing the boundaries of Visual & Applied Art, Design and the Moving Image.

Following the success of last year's Graduate Showcase, Mission Gallery has now developed this opportunity to include art, craft, design, still and moving image, which will now encompass both programming strands; Maker in Focus and the [...] space.

Mission Gallery has developed a reputation for dynamic and distinctive programming, to present excellence across the visual arts, applied arts and craft, from across Wales and beyond. For this Graduate Showcase, work has been selected from various degree shows around the UK and New Designers. Focusing on artists, makers and designers who have showcased excellence within their specialised field; highlighting those that are pushing the boundaries of traditional concepts and ideas, blurring the lines between disciplines and celebrating art and craft in all its forms.

Becky Williams
Martin Lane
Joely Clinkard
Kathrine Wibmer
Laura Marriott
Julia Hopkins
Eve Balashova
Rebecca Durbin
Sally Ann Parker
Sophie Holbeche
Sophie Jones

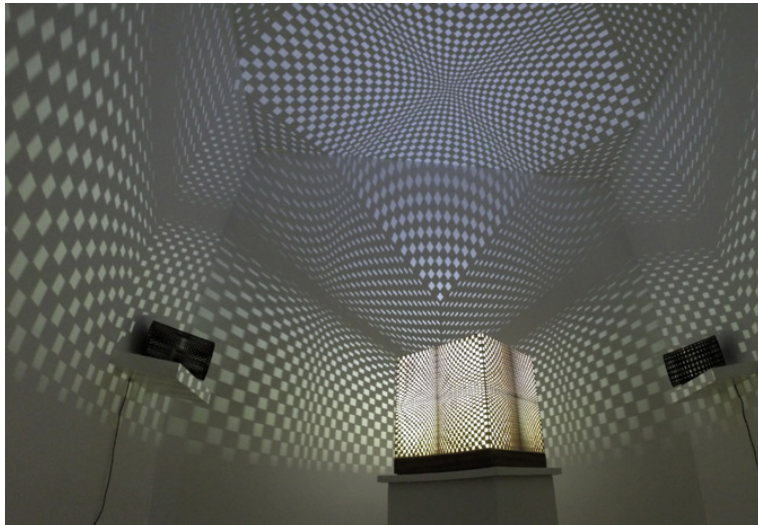
Cara Davies
Jake Rowles
Julia Pantowska
Katie O'Hanlon
Liyu Xue
Nathan Mullis
Mohamed Hassan
Thomas Rolfe
Tom Abbiss Smith



Becky Williams

Designer maker Becky Williams draws inspiration from decaying urban surfaces, intricate details and bold architectural lines to create decorative vessels and jewellery. Her work explores the ideas of positive and negative space, the interaction of objects with their environment and the juxtaposition of densities. She works with enamelled copper to create detailed vessels, which contrast against the clean lines of the surrounding steel forms. Exploring different scales, colours and finishes in her work allows the pieces to interact with each other and encourages varying juxtapositions and diversity amongst her collections. Her jewellery reflects the aesthetics of her vessels, and encourages interaction on a more personal level, by placing them on the body.





Martin Lane

When creating a piece of work, I'm inspired by the search for the perfect resource. I work with light and recycled materials. I believe when something has been used, it has a character that informs the design and provokes a unique outcome.

I am intrigued by pattern and Op art. I blend this with light and mirror to create complicated projections of repeated pattern which transform spaces. The viewer is taken on a journey to a realm between art and design, where artistic form and functionality exist in tandem.





Joely Clinkard

An artist and maker living and working in London, Joely's observations of the city form the basis of her ceramic work, she enjoys the low-tech way of Ceramics, favouring hand-building, decorating and mixed media to express her ideas.

Handcrafted and hand painted, each piece is an individual, representing and celebrating the vibrant and diverse humans which make up a cityscape. The work stemmed from the experience of walking, looking and living in the city, understanding it as a dynamic space where people, architecture and nature come together. Hand building in gritty, rustic clay and metal before applying intuitive and vibrant surface design, the vessels are a mix of the material and the spiritual, the dark and the colourful, the human and the architectural.

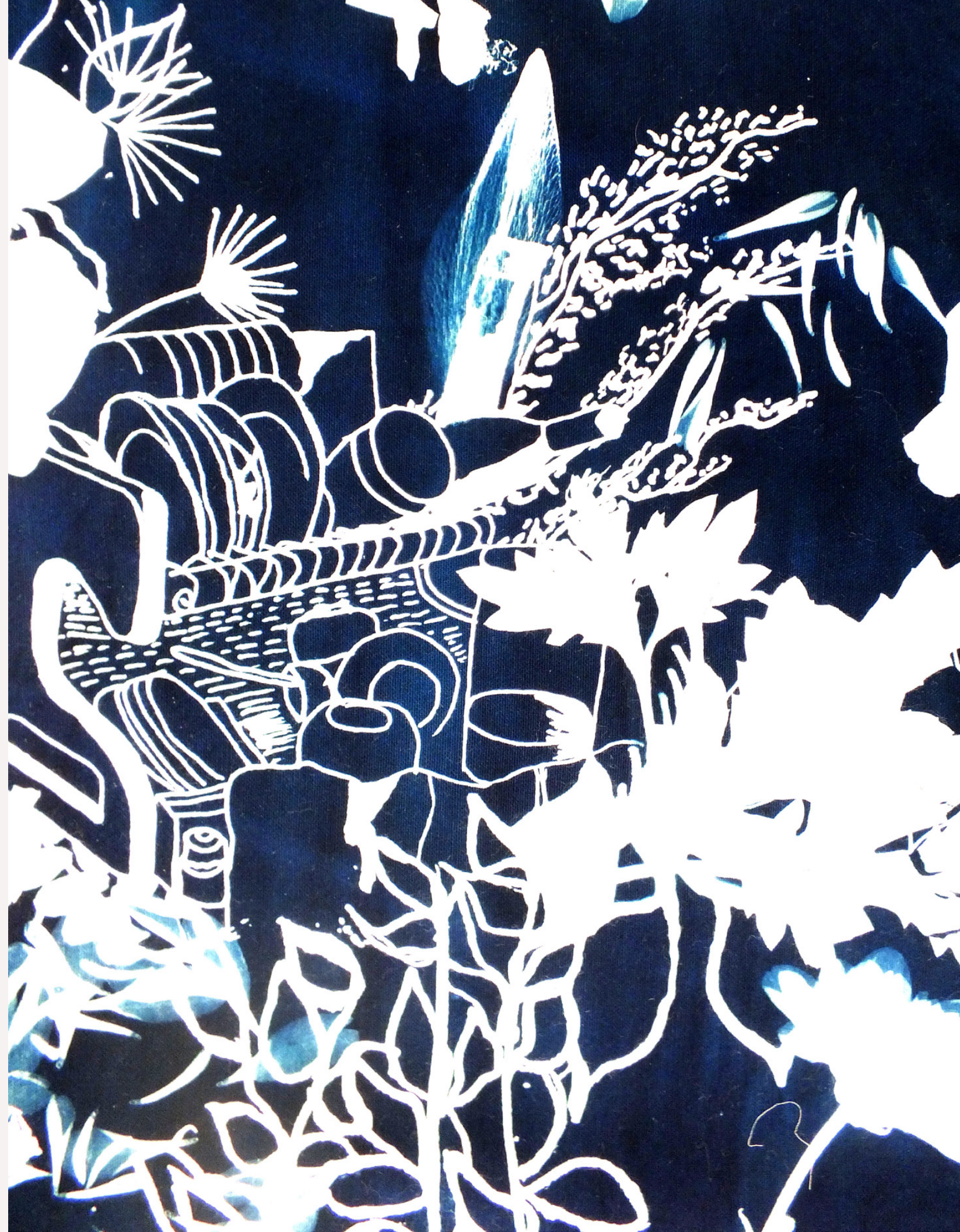




Katherine Wibmer

A summer spent in rural Europe has inspired Katherine's final graduate collection, "overgrown and abandoned". Imagery that particularly struck her on her travels was that of neglected buildings and furniture reclaiming beauty, as overgrown foliage made a home in the forgotten structures.

She is driven by a passion for traditional textile processes, experimenting with techniques to create unique patterns and textures, replicating the disintegrating surfaces of her initial inspiration. Her use of Hand processed fabric and organic material in the design process has resulted in a bespoke and unique collection for interiors.





Laura Marriott

Textile artist, Laura Marriott has taken an individual and innovative approach to digital stitch. Bold colours and intricate stitching combine to create her unique, manipulated, 3D structures.

Laura's current project, "Digital Tribe" is inspired by a deep cultural fascination, particularly with tribal art and traditional objects accumulated on personal travels around the world, which is further influenced by the bold, rich colours of Mayan art. Paralleled with inspiration from nature, the collection takes on an abstract but organic aesthetic. Technical curiosity has driven this range of sophisticated and experimental lace which is constructed entirely of digitally stitched fabrics. These pieces are then individually manipulated by hand to create a unique and bespoke collection of motifs, which then form this 3D installation.

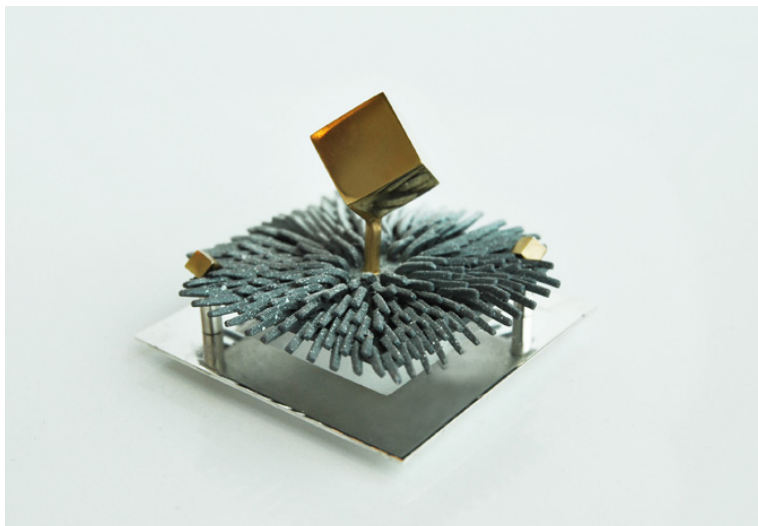




Julia Hopkins

Julia Hopkins, a recent graduate of Fine Art at Cardiff School of Art and Design, makes art that defies traditional categorisation. Using simple materials such as wood, thread and found objects, she creates delicate, three dimensional structures that seem to embody particular moments, events or ideas. A sense of playfulness brings to mind the well-known child's game 'Mousetrap', luring the unsuspecting viewer into an engagement with life's big questions. Julia's recent practice has led to an interest in the idea of absurdism and in particular, absurdist theatre. She will be exploring this theme further at the Royal College of Art.





Evgeniia Balashova

Evgeniia Balashova is a Russian born jewellery designer and maker based in Glasgow. After receiving traditional skill-based art training in Russia, Eve moved to the UK to study Jewellery making and graduated from The Glasgow School of Art in June 2016.

The origins of Evgeniia's work come from clinical, yet diverse environment of office spaces and objects that fill them. By exploring the repetitive features found in stationary, computer hardware, architectural and interior layouts of offices, she creates elements that are formed into a grid and morphed into a distorted, more organic shape to represent the organized chaos nature of a typical office environment.

The focus of the work lays in the exploration of repetition, movement and manipulation of grids in combination with reiteration of geometrical form. The pieces are created using a wide spectrum of making techniques, such as 3d printing, CNC milling and hand manufacturing. Evgeniia's work is an ongoing exploration of process and materials and an attempt to find a careful balance between man and machine.





Rebecca Durbin

Throughout my three years at Cardiff Metropolitan studying Artist Designer: Maker, my drive to experiment and create professionally has grown throughout.

As a designer I enjoy a very hands on approach to my creating as well as outsourcing and project managing area. My inspiration is usual based on function and beauty and this is what my series of vases show. I also enjoy using my skills in both digital and traditional craft to create new exciting work.

My current body of work using the traditional craft of hand glass blowing and wood turning alongside computer CAD and CNC milling to create work that brings both crafts together harmoniously.



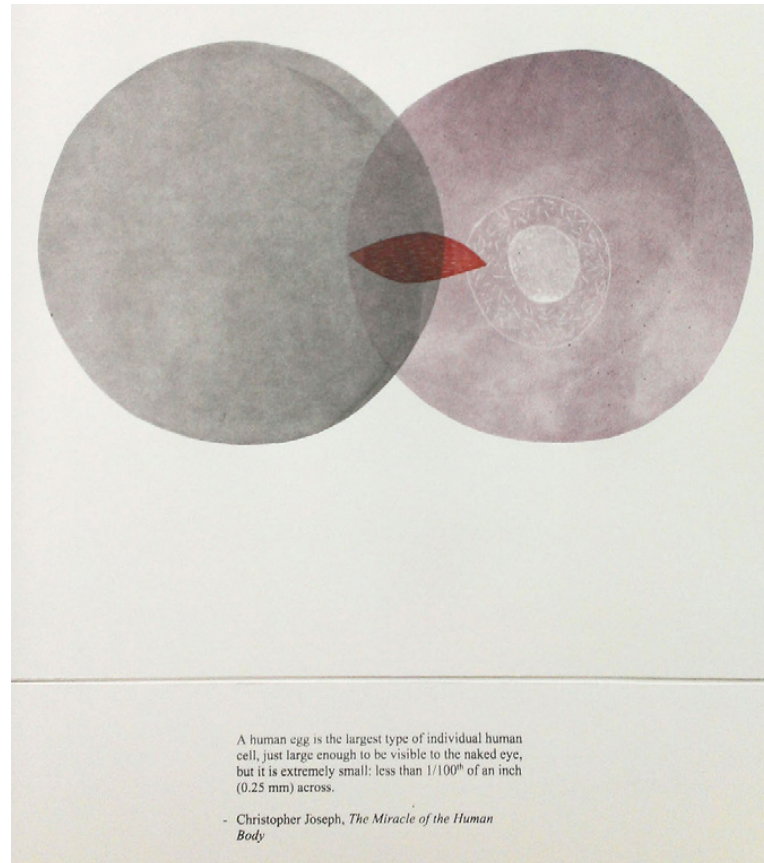


Sally-Ann Parker

Sally-Ann feels that she would like to define herself and her identity as a woman through her art. Her ideas on women's place in society today, as well as how women are perceived physically within our environments. Her aim is to show a dialogue between artist and the knitted textile, using this discipline to emphasise the knitted stitch as a language. Showing the concept of how women have been defined by society through their silhouette.

In this recent body of work, Sally-Ann has illustrated the physical embodiment of woman through flesh, bone and skin. Utilising the domestic knitting machine to develop technical, hand manipulated stitches, to expand knitted textiles beyond function, and into a conceptual visualisation.





Sophie Holbeche

There is stillness in simplicity, 2016

This series of work has been created as a way of inviting the viewer to be still, slow down and experience the work wholly. As the ever-increasing pace to our lives becomes more apparent, there is a struggle to find balance and serenity in our personal lives. This is showing up in the rise in stress related issues, sadly, that we experiences daily in our Western society.

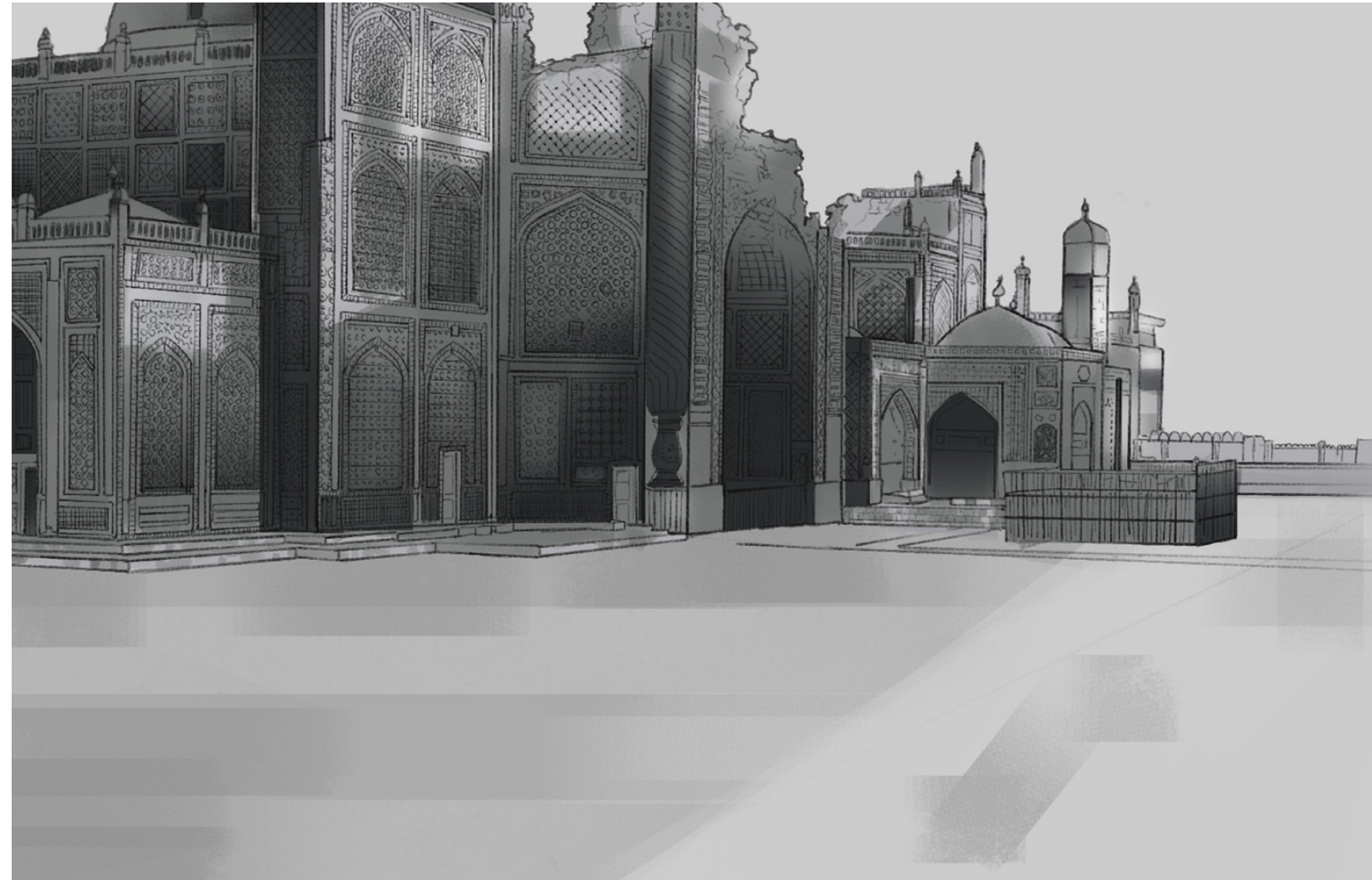
My work has meditative and thought provoking qualities. I find that simplistic imagery has a way of creating a sense of thoughtfulness and curiosity to the way we look and experience an image. As an artist, my visual interest lies in how ambiguous imagery is able to communicate many different concepts. My work aims to express a calming feeling, the importance of the moments we share and the fascinations we can find in life.





Sophie Jones

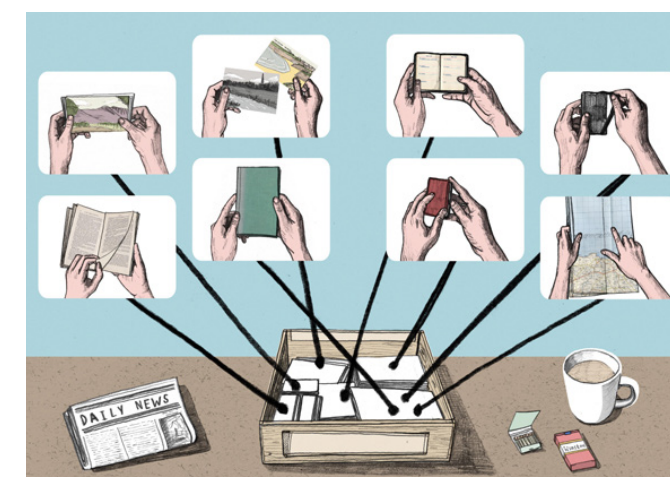
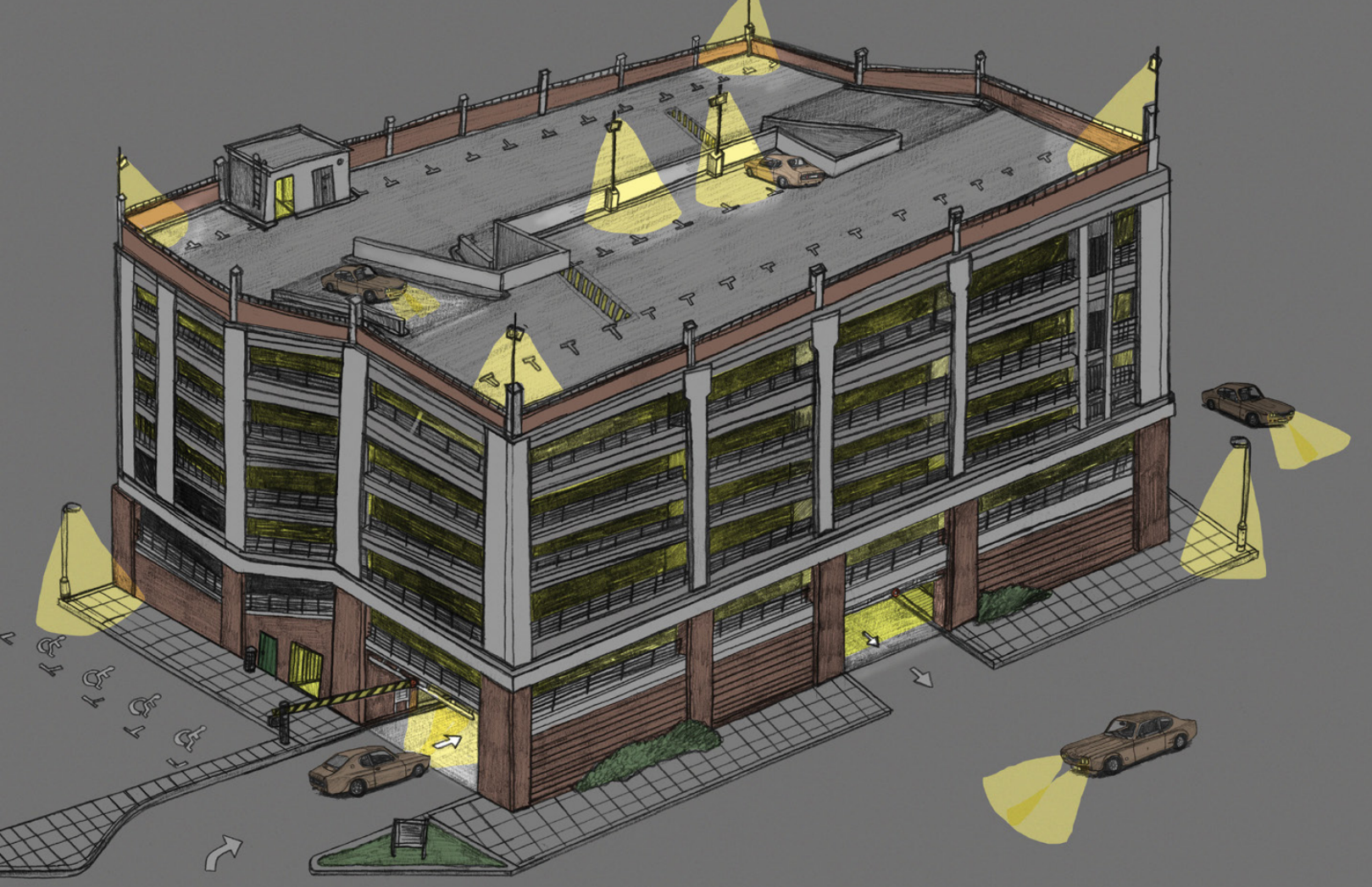
Concept art is what I identify with most; I mix between traditional and digital. For these particular pieces of work I've come to the conclusion of the importance in conveying a message through the portrayal of the work, therefore I recently took a more mature approach on how the art could show certain emotion or give awareness to a subject, this is why I chose War. It's quite a prominent subject in today's society and I wanted to really flesh out the reality of it through art. I hope there may be a possibility that the work can help to understand the current crisis people go through. I feel it would be braver to speak about something that's horrifying and turn it into something good, something that felt right to speak about. During this time I'm surrounded by people who share the same enthusiasm for creating and communicating, this I find is extremely important when it comes to a design process.





Cara Davies

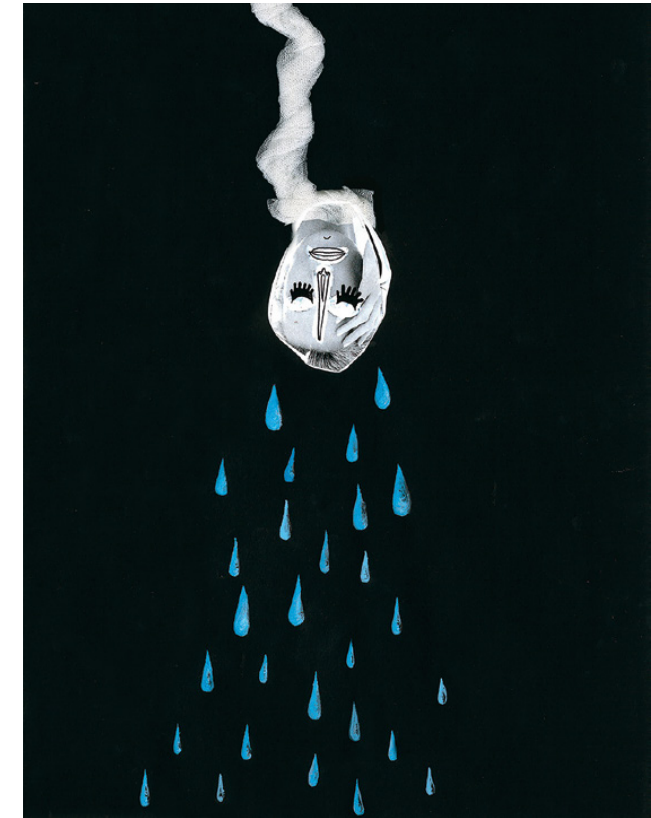
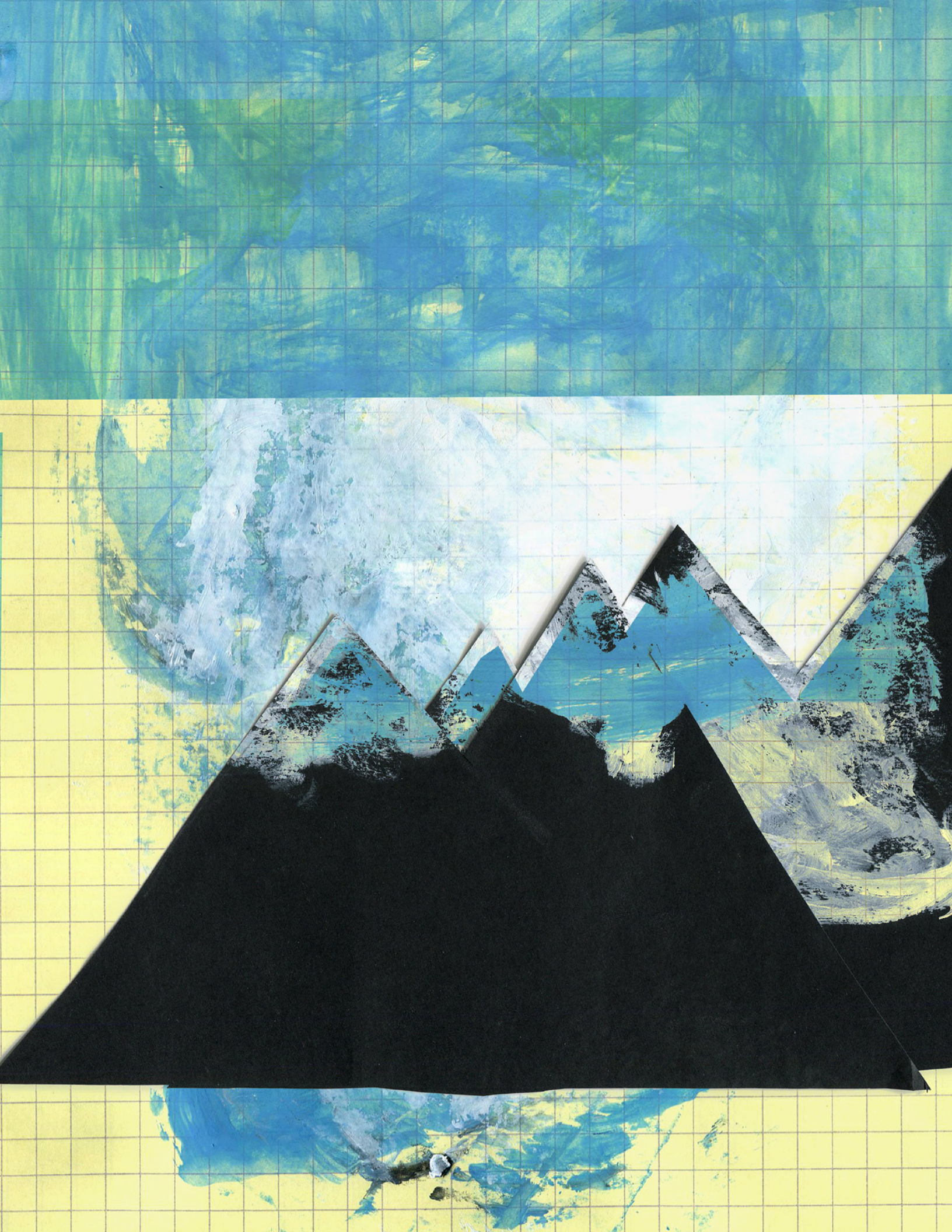
Cara is a Children's book illustrator working mainly with gouache, watercolour and acrylic, finalising her images digitally. Her pieces are mainly responses to narratives such as the Brothers Grimm tales and stories from Angela Carter's "The Bloody Chamber and other Short Stories". Despite the underlying darkness behind these tales she likes to keep her work quite light-hearted, taking a different approach to these traditional stories. Her main aim when creating is to inject a modern approach into traditional design.



Jake Rowles

Jake sees his work as a connection between film and illustration. He explores themes of obsession, paranoia and mystery within his work, to create a narrative that is not always clear - the reader can piece together their own interpretation of the story. These pieces are part of Jake's wordless graphic novel 'The Photo', a story of a struggling writer who believes he has spotted a potential murder in an old photograph. The story is heavily influenced by movies such as 'Blow Up', 'The Conversation' and 'All the President's Men'. The project idea is in a sense to become a director through the creation of the book; an 'illustration director'.





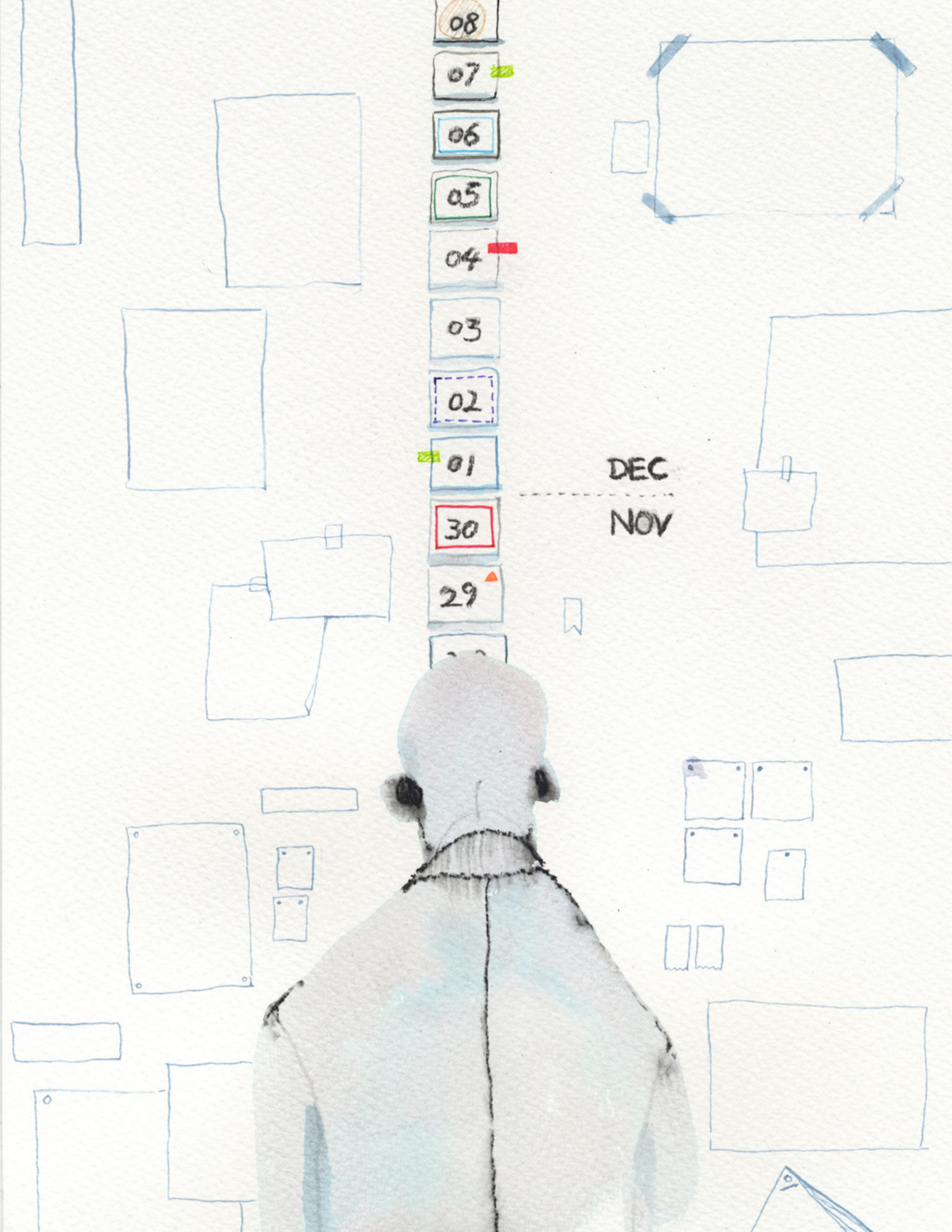
Julia Pantkowska

Julia believes the developmental process to be as significant as the artwork itself. She is excited by the unknown journey of her creativity, which constantly leads her in new directions. A second inspiration is the subject of the medium. Conventionally the medium is subordinate to the content; she challenges these boundaries through layering techniques and scalpel drawn illustrations. This draws from her passion for the Dada movement, particularly the inclusion of found imagery and ephemera. There should be no boundaries between art and the everyday; collage can inform a documentary approach whilst achieving both an experimental and playful finish. Julia is currently working on a project focused on Eastern European religious mythologies of death, the afterlife and the ideology of 'Sainthood'. She combines universal topics with every day materials to explore both her ethnic background and current experiences.



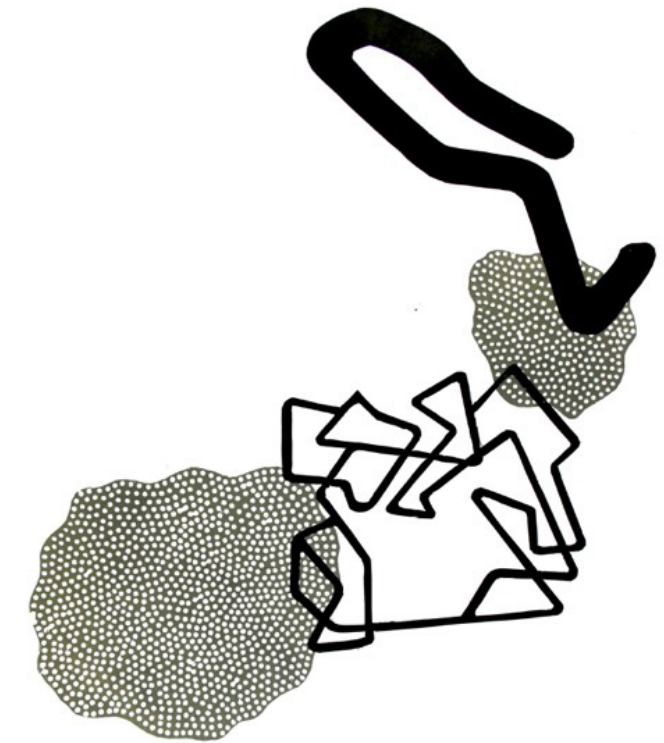
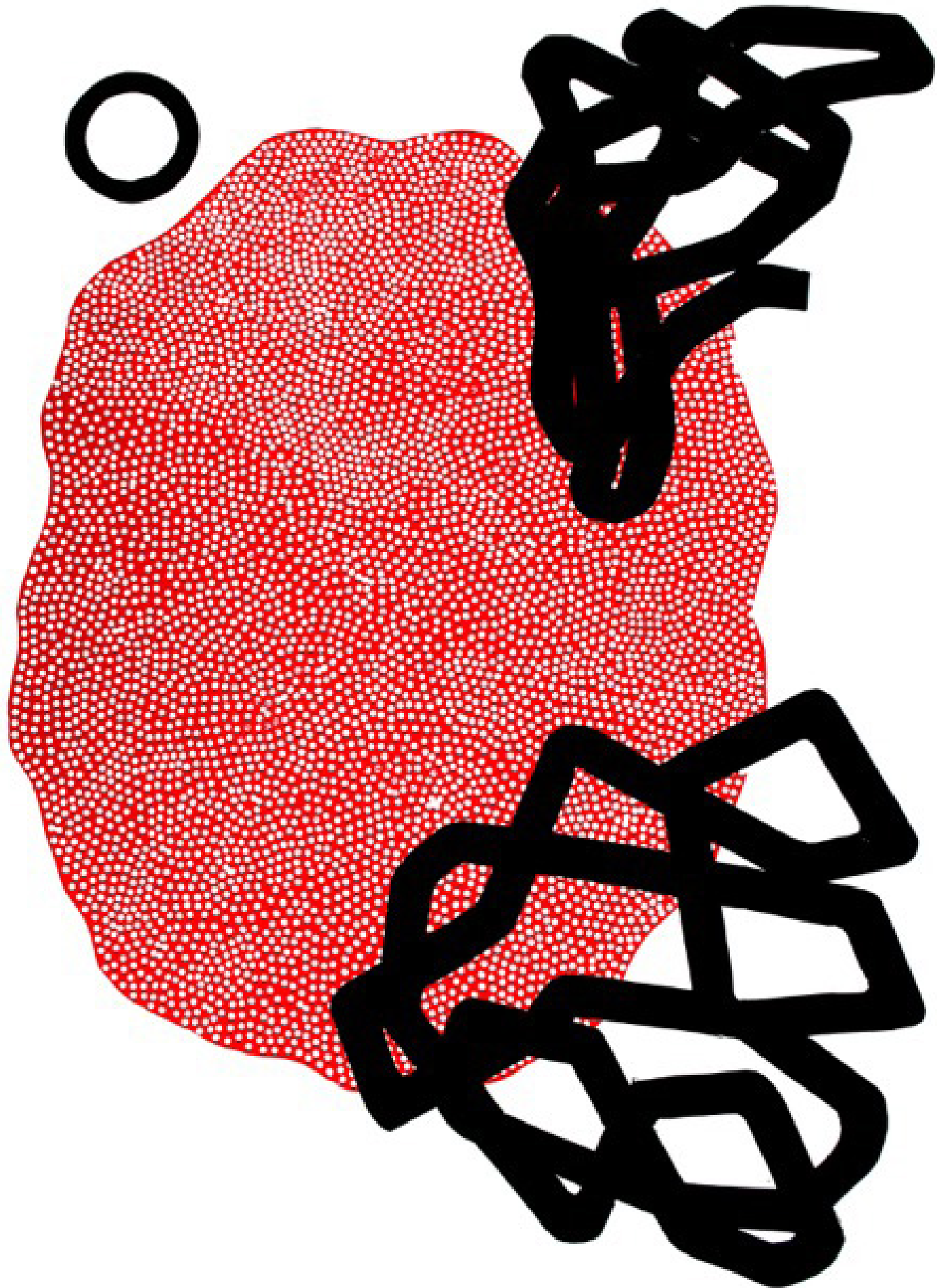
Katie O'Hanlon

Katie creates illustrations with the intention of putting them onto products, she very much enjoys illustrated gifts, homeware and greetings cards. Her aim is to bring a smile to people's faces when they either purchase or receive as a gift one of her products or illustrations. She is inspired by the natural world and chooses to draw from observation. The manmade environment also inspires her. She strives to create a sense of character and movement in all her illustrations. Katie explores texture through the use of pencil line work and combines this with more fluid watercolour to capture a sense of life. Katie tends to work traditionally and combines this with digital techniques.



Liyu Xue

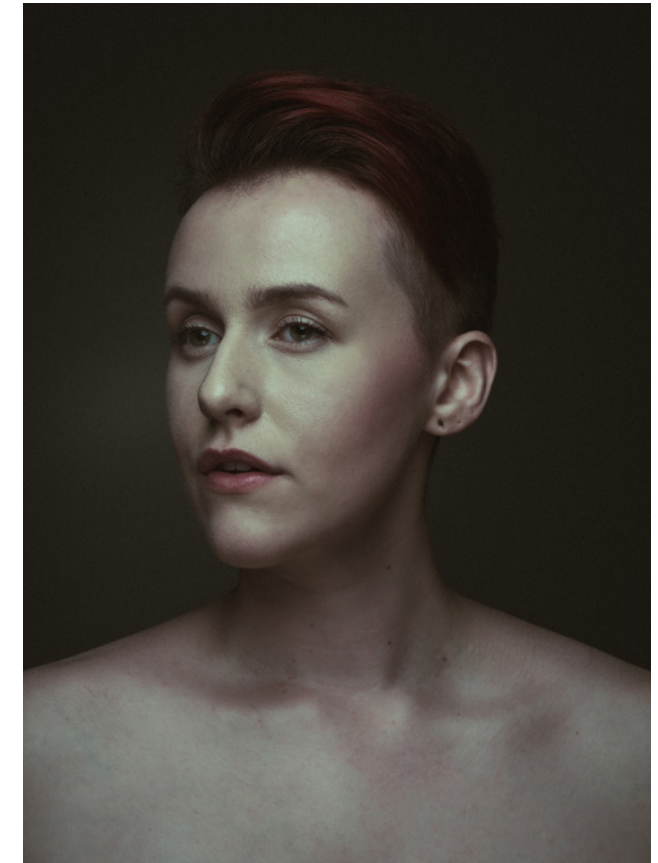
I graduated from BA (Hons) Illustration course at University for the Creative Arts this year. Most of my work focuses on reportage and authorial practise, discusses about current social issues, and originally delivers my vision in a personal style. With My Black Sun is a depression-awareness project I work on in my last year of study. In this series of images I try using symbolism to express the feeling of someone who suffers from depression and has difficulty to get rid of its control. I recognise my images are aesthetically appealing but strongly sad and helpless. Stories come from my personal experience, first-hand knowledge from people around and trustable online information of this mental illness. Medium: ink, watercolour, charcoal and pencil



Nathan Mullis

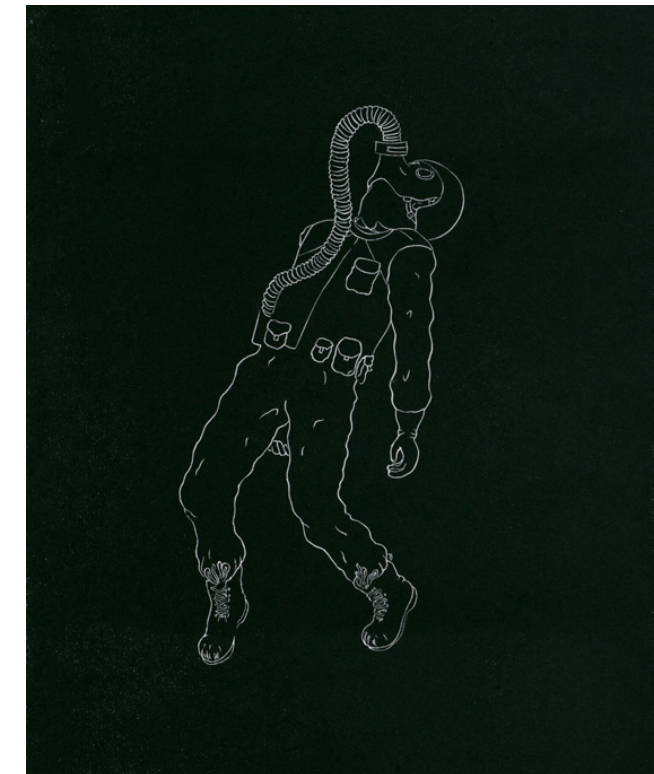
As an artist Nathan is fascinated in how the nature of simply insignificant objects can come together to create dialogue. How in that instinctive moment of assembling his Lino at the printing press, composition becomes paramount. Placement and selection is spontaneous, and intuition takes over.

Nathan is absorbed by the reactive nature of process and how it creates a two-way conversation between artist and material. How the relationship of colour complements form and how the act of process creates meaning and significance. His approach is empirical in nature and forms are drawn from environmental experiences and memory; at the press is where he responds to print intuitively. No one print is the same and individually are unique; yet when they exist collectively, dialogue can become more complex which in turn extends narrative.



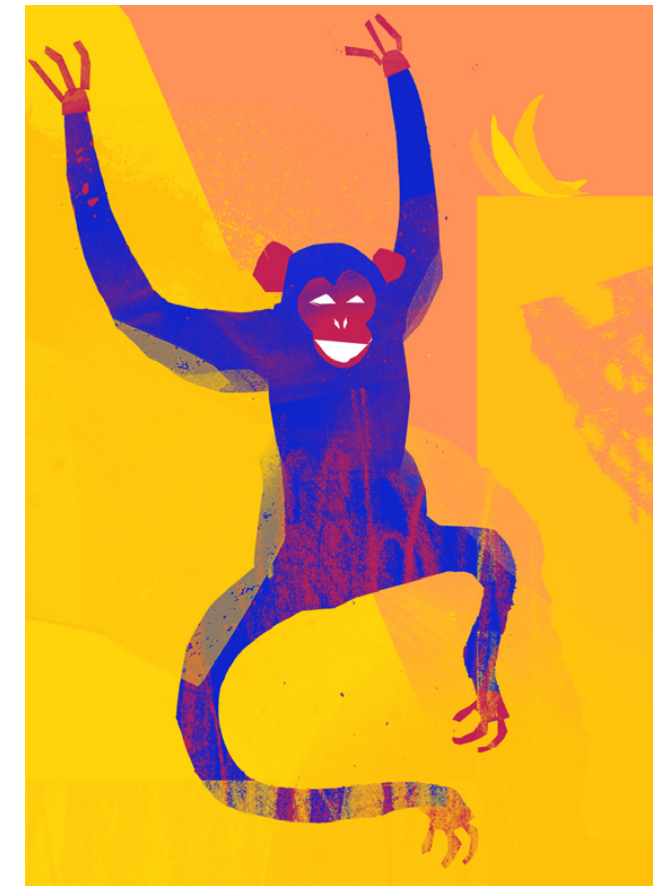
Mohamed Hassan

I have just finished my degree at Carmarthen School of Art, graduating with a first class BA Honours degree in Photography. My work aims to challenge some of the stereotypes and judgements that people make about others. By taking photographs of people of different ages, gender, race and sexual orientation, I am exploring equality and tolerance by stripping away the subject's personal appearance so that the impression that the viewer gets is of a human, an individual, not a stereotype. In this current body of work, you can see beyond the subject's outer appearance, they all present a calm inner presence and dignity. It is my hope that the viewer of these images asks: Who is this person? What is their story? Is this person who I think or believe they are?



Thomas Rolfe

CURA is Thomas' most recent work, which looks into the humanities relationship with the natural world. Dealing with humanities ever growing damaging effects on the earth's natural environments, exploring the consequences through a fictional narrative. Whilst allowing freedom for imagination and self-reflection, the narrative itself is quite ambiguous. The purpose of CURA is not to bombard the viewer with the wrongs of humanity, but aim to create self-awareness and appreciation of nature, which he hopes can create a more positive and sustainable relationship. As a practitioner he seeks to push the boundaries of printmaking through contemporary illustration, taking the already known traditional values of printmaking and exploring its full potential in the world of modern illustration.



Tom Abbiss Smith

Tom Abbiss Smith is an image maker, illustrator and fine artist based in Norwich. Although his creations take on a multidisciplinary approach, his intuitive style of execution frequently manipulates the quality of the mark in conjunction with form and composition. Through extensive experimentation with both traditional techniques and digital software, his work always explores a unique conceptual narrative.



Mission Gallery is one of Wales' best adapted spaces for the contemporary arts.

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