

## Practitioner's statement 2:

### **Growth**

During the process for my second folio I wanted to distance myself completely from the concept of my first folio, I found myself researching other art styles and I fell in love with flat art. I love the look of the 2D bold colours and strong line work. I further reached into this art form and investigated various styles within this art form such as Super Flat, WPAP and colour field. Each style produced various different techniques and styles that I found mesmerising, through the use of bold colour and strong line work. Although I loved this I found myself somehow wanting to incorporate vintage photography as I loved the soft feminine look, these vintage portraits produced. This sent me down the road of researching vintage photography, vintage cameras and the processes they used to create the photographs. I found myself being heavily influence by contemporary artists such as Sofia Bonati and her use of incorporating minimal tonal shading along with vibrant colours and patterns into her artworks. She brought to my attention the importance of a background and the overall affect it can have on an artworks composition. Her figures are always female and appear melancholic. This inspired me to combine vintage photography with elements of flat art to recontextualise and recreate my artwork.

I constantly questioned how I could combine the elements of flat art and vintage photography within my theme. I utilised brainstorming tools and devices to develop my ideas and how I could combine these two juxtaposing art forms of vintage photography and flat painting into my final artwork. I eventually came up with the concept of 'Old vs New', this would allow me to combine my two ideas into one composition. I decided to create one portrait piece, featuring a vintage portrait of a women, depicted as melancholic; reminiscent to Bonati's work. I experimented with various colour schemes but found myself drawn to a warm colour scheme filled with vibrant reds, yellows, browns and oranges. I conducted a photoshoot of myself and edited my imagery so it would appear vintage, I used this as a reference point for my final product. When finally producing my artwork and seeing the final composition painted within the flat art style, I decided to experiment with a technique I had previously learnt from an Australian artist, Jane Donaldson. Her collaged and three dimensional use of painted watercolour paper layered and curled created a beautiful effect that I desired within my final composition. I created various flora elements inspired by Australian's native plants and cut and layered it onto my background, this framed my portrait and tied in my background allowing it to remain imperative to my overall composition. Within my hand painted portrait I used gouache paints to create the effect of WPAP, (WPAP created by Wedha Adbdual Rashid) which is a flat geometric design style that I was drawn to due to the bold colours which are used to create the facial features of a figure. Instead of geometric shapes I created fluid shapes, this allowed my piece to look more organic. The gouache paints produced a beautiful flat matte effect, within my portrait and my MFD support.

The symbolism behind my final artwork is the growth of a women seen in both vintage and modern eras. This is supported by the blossoming of the flowers, her expression is melancholic due to the struggles and oppression women face both from the past to the present. I have shown my concept of old versus new evidenced through mediums, imagery and concept. I feel that the final composition accurately reflected the original idea that I wanted to achieve, I believe the use of three dimensional collage artworks and warm colour schemes creates a unique composition that I find visually interesting and intriguing for a viewer.