

## ***To See You***

My starting points for this artwork included ideas such as scenery, people and abstract concepts. I refined my ideas down to an artwork based on my partner and an artwork based on space. I chose to continue with an artwork on my partner because I rarely do artworks that are heavily influenced by my feelings and emotions, so this would be a unique opportunity for me. The intended meaning of this artwork was to represent someone I love in an artistic way. I wanted to create an artwork that was inspired by a very genuine emotion for me.

One challenge I faced along the way was choosing my medium. I had decided that I wasn't going to use oil paint due to drying times and time constraints, and that I was going to use acrylic paint with an impasto medium instead. I found that the acrylic paint in my experiment mixed funny and became muddy when I used it for my specific colour scheme. I had to choose between dull, muddy colours or paint that stayed wet for a long time. I decided that, because my main goal was to depict my partner's personality, the vibrancy of the colours was more important to me.

Another challenge I faced was using palette knives in an artwork for the first time. There was a bit of a learning curve with it as it is very different from using brushes. Palette knives have a rigid shape, so the impressions cannot be manipulated as much as they can with a brush. However, I found that I could scrape off certain areas of paint if I needed to, which was good for correcting mistakes.

If I were to do this again, I would probably do more experiments on the composition itself to see how it looked. I would probably also use brushes in my experiments, but I was rather intent on using palette knives. For my practical itself, I would've liked to get bolder with the colours as I'm often inhibited with my art. Getting out of my comfort zone more would have been beneficial. I also would have deepened the shadows to make her really jump off the page. I think the shadows on the scarf were great, but the head and face were lacklustre.

I was very much inspired by Joshua Miels' oil paintings, one of which I analysed in my folio. I loved his coherent colour palette and the impressions he made with the palette knife. I wanted to incorporate that kind of texture into my artwork. Something I learned during my planning and production was that ideas and motivation came very easy when motivated by my emotion and feelings. I very rarely do emotionally-driven artworks but I'm glad I did one for my folio. Experimentation was more fun, I went for bolder colours than I usually would have, and I was motivated the whole time.

Overall, I really enjoyed doing my first artwork with oil paints and my first artwork with palette knives. It was an amazing experience, and I'm very happy with the outcome. I feel like it really reflects her personality and all her qualities which is exactly what I was going for.