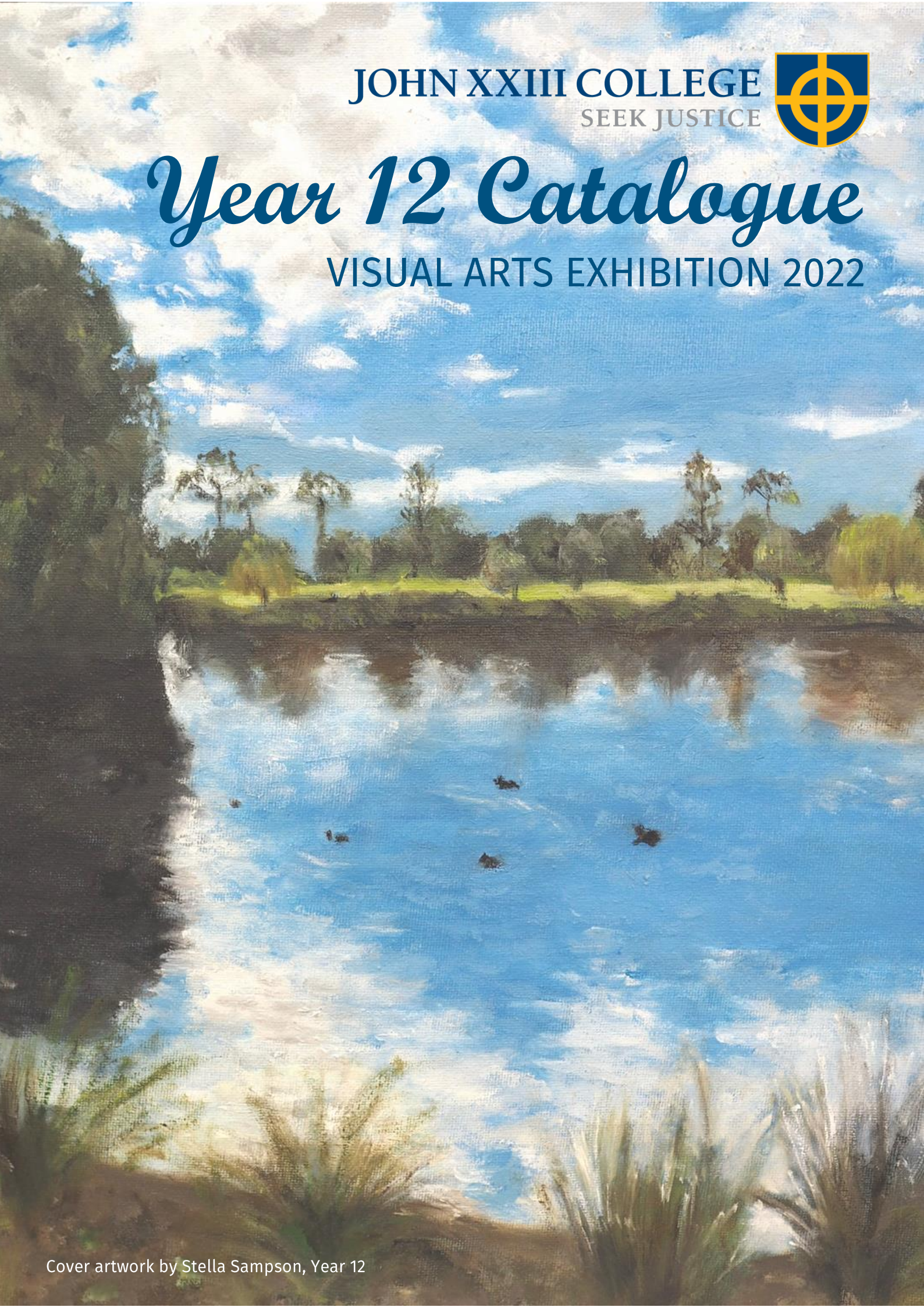


JOHN XXIII COLLEGE
SEEK JUSTICE



Year 12 Catalogue

VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION 2022



Zoe Bennecke



My favourite part of Visual Arts ATAR is sharing the space with friends that have the same passion. Being beside each other through the lengthy marathon of completing an artwork is rewarding and it's exciting to see the different ways we interpret the themes.

I chose this course because it offers a different way of learning. The practical component engages creativity and allows me to take control of what I achieve. Learning about artworks from history and the contemporary world has taught me about interesting global contexts, opinions and worldviews on a more personal level to the artists' experiences than what you would find in a textbook.

Yinka Shonibare is a contemporary artist that I found the most interesting to learn about this year. His fetching mixed media ensemble has inspired me to stray away from my instinctive perfectionism and recognise that realism isn't the only proper way to produce art I'm proud of. Instead, like him, I most value using vibrant and deep colours in a way to gain my confidence in painting as well as reflecting my personality. His artworks are also very aesthetically pleasing and tell wondrous stories with critical connotations which I love to provide in my paintings. Through the course I've also enjoyed experimenting with watercolour, acrylics and painting on wood with the advice of Ms Hoy. Both Ms Hoy and the nature of the materials I love have taught me to loosen my mind and trust my hand and vision when painting to begin to develop my own style. I hope to continue exploring my own style in the future and express individuality through it.



Holly Buchanan

The Visual Arts General course has been a wonderful experience which has renewed my love of art. The course has given me many opportunities to explore a variety of different mediums and styles of artwork. My work has grown and developed throughout the course in many different aspects.



My love for realism and small detailed work has grown tremendously and I have been able to explore the ways I can produce my own unique artwork. One major person who influenced me and my art journey was British artist Sarah Graham who is known for her fine art and realism. Her work really inspired me to paint in a more realistic way and focus closely on the very small details within my artwork. This led to my work having a very realistic style, focusing on all the small details and really drawing out all the lines and objects within the image. My favourite material to use is oil paints which is a flawless medium to use. The way it all perfectly blends into each colour gives the most realistic finish. The Visual Arts course had been such a unique experience as I have been given so many opportunities to find my style and individual painting technique.



Zac Dewar

Throughout my time in Visual Arts ATAR and General, I have learnt a number of things and it has provided me with a huge opportunity to grow my artistic skills and knowledge. The John XXIII Visual Arts community has progressed me in ways that are unimaginable.



During my studies I have experimented with expressionist, realist, pop art and impressionist styles. Every work of mine has come out as a masterpiece and a great conversation topic, especially for me to just show off! Ms Hoy has absolutely been a core influence in my art making as an artist herself- her work is amazing and is supported by her art historical knowledge, and she has helped me find new artists to be inspired by.

My style of work stands out greatly in comparison to other students in my class. I would describe my artwork as massive, colourful and free. I am one of the only ones in my class who works with acrylic paint, which contributes to my open and free style, and I have mastered the art of the palette knife. The Visual Arts course is seen as such a unique course throughout school because it gives individuals an opportunity to strive for creativity and imagination, as in the Art room nothing is considered incorrect.



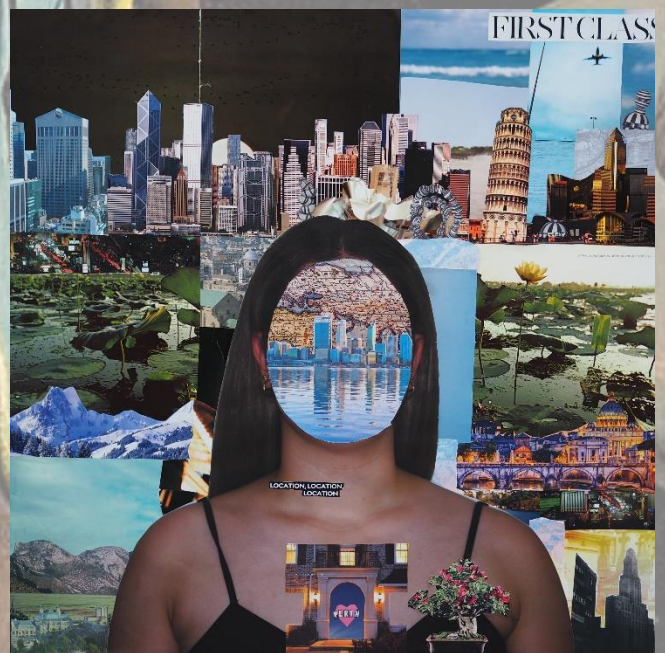
Hannah Giannas

The Visual Arts course has provided me with the opportunity to learn and develop my skills as an artist, increasing my knowledge widely on various topics such as art history. I have had to work around many challenges, and I have learnt to overcome confronting issues.



At the end of the course, I feel like I have come out the other side as a different person who has learnt not only art but also life skills. Art has given me an outlet to express myself and escape from the traditional stresses of school in a creative medium. I have been greatly influenced by the environment around me and by the artists I have studied in my time during the course, such as Hannah Höch and her experimentation with the technique of collage.

I have yet to discover my specific style of art, but I like to create pieces which are personal to me and reflect my own life. I have enjoyed experimenting with new media like collage, coloured pencil and oil paint which I would not have experienced if I had not chosen the Visual Arts course. Visual Arts has been a unique experience for me as it allows me to work with both practical and written work; I have loved both aspects of the course and have felt that it has been balanced very well.



Olivia Hopkins

During my time as a Visual Arts student, I have been given the opportunity to immerse myself in artistic ways that I never realised were achievable. Visual Arts ATAR enabled me to access my artistic side which was both challenging and enjoyable as it allowed me to learn, develop, and explore personal reflections and the world around me through a variety of mediums.



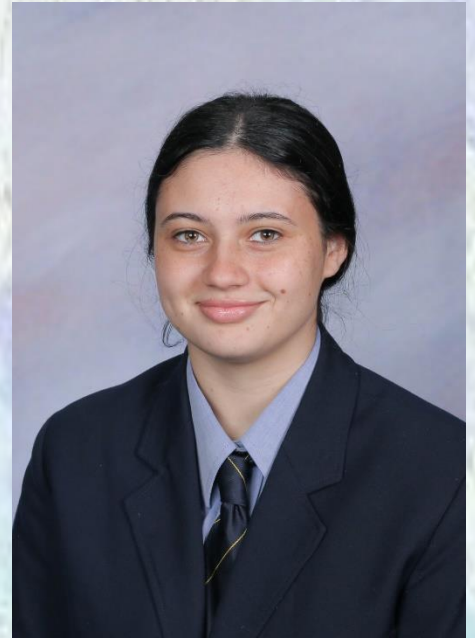
Throughout my two-year journey in Visual Arts ATAR, I have had the opportunity to enhance myself artistically through my development of media. My style is based on realism and adopting a more representational approach. My selection of art forms is heavily ceramic based, and I have experimented with its integration with other mediums and art forms. I have expanded my knowledge and skills in ceramics by including it in each of my artworks over the past two years.

Visual Arts ATAR is such a unique experience because it has allowed me to express myself, my struggles, and my story in a form that cannot always be communicated in everyday life. It is a representation of who I am, my journey as a person, and what I believe. Art has granted me the opportunity to express myself artistically and share the issues I am passionate about. Through this process I have grown more resilient, more artistic, and more determined to communicate a message to people whom my artworks are directed at. I will always cherish the experience and skills Visual Arts ATAR has provided me and although it has required many hours of hard work, I am forever grateful for this experience and would highly recommend this course.



Yasmin Jones

I have loved taking part in the Visual Arts course throughout high school, and particularly enjoyed completing ATAR Visual Arts. It has allowed me to explore my creativity and apply practical skills away from the heavy written work of other courses.



Furthermore, I have been given the opportunity to develop my knowledge and analysis skills when observing artworks, which has deepened my appreciation of the art around me. My work has significantly evolved and improved throughout my time in Visual Arts, which has let me experiment with a variety of mediums. I have explored graphite, charcoal and oil painting to create personal works that reflect my identity and sense of place. Through Art I have honed my skills, particularly in painting, which has led me to produce artworks that I am proud of. My own style has recently been focused on working in black and white to create tonal pieces of the human form.

I have personally been inspired by the artists I have been given the opportunity to research, such as Hannah Hoch, who used her photomontage to exert her feminist critiques, or Jean-Michel Basquiat, who used graffiti art to reflect his experience as an African American living in New York. The Visual Arts course is such a unique experience because it offers students a creative outlet that they may not get from other courses. The Art teachers allow us to exercise great creative freedom and provide support to bring our ideas to life. Overall, I am thankful for the opportunity I have been given to work within the art room and explore my own ideas alongside the Art team and the Art students.



Jorja Knowles

I joined Visual Arts ATAR in semester two of Year 11 and I'm so thankful I did. I have become close with many of the girls in our class and I am so grateful for the friendships I have made. I love Art because it is a time where I can relax and do what I love.



Before joining the course, I wasn't sure what I would be best at and what I enjoyed doing the most. Throughout the course I was able to determine my love of drawing faces, especially close-up, and I feel the quality of my work has gotten better over time due to this. I feel the style of realism has influenced my artwork. I enjoy trying to draw realistic faces and my favourite type of art style is realism. I enjoy drawing realistic pieces that have very deep and important meanings behind them as I find the meanings behind art very interesting and a crucial part of the artwork. I love drawing with graphite. I find it very easy to use and have always been drawn to it rather than painting. I feel like pencil is good for being able to define smaller details and I like drawing in greyscale.

The Visual Arts course is a unique course because of the atmosphere of the class. We all have similar interests and are very supportive of each other's work. The Art teachers are helpful and supportive. Although it can be stressful like any other course, I feel like Art is an escape and an outlet to be creative.



Indi Korczynskij



When you join the ATAR Visual Arts course they tell you, you'll create your own artworks! You'll learn from experienced artists, dive into the extensive history of the art world, dabble in different mediums and come out practically a professional artist!

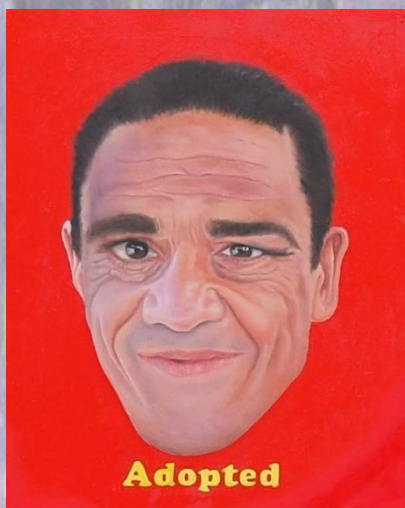
They don't tell you that you'll become temporarily rigor mortis sitting hunched in front of a canvas for hours on end. They don't tell you that specks of paint will somehow end up smeared everywhere – your clothes, your skin, your hair. But, more importantly, what they don't tell you is the unmatched feeling of accomplishment as you stare at your artwork at approximately 1:30am, the first human to ever see its completion.

This course has been so unforgettable, and I am eternally grateful for the opportunities I have been given to practise my artistic skills, especially in painting, and develop a more consistent art style. I have particularly loved becoming a part of the nurturing art class community who have shared my enthusiasm, understood my stress, and put up with myself deprecating complaints. I have loved being able to grow alongside the rest of my peers, being privy to their interpretation of art and witnessing how they express their views through their works.

This interest in how others see the world has extended beyond the classroom, translating into my art, in which I challenge the viewer to learn more about those around them. I am inspired by the idea that everyone can teach us something new, helping us to understand one another more deeply. This same concept was also inspired by the phenomenal Archibald Prize. Not only am I captivated by the humble paragons the prize depicts but the variety of expressive styles the portraits are painted in. Ranging from hyper realism to expressionism the works truly reflect the artists own perspective and interpretation of life.



Addicted



Adopted



Widow

Emily Letizia

During my time in the Visual Arts General course, I have had so much fun exploring different ideas and putting my creativeness into my artworks. The classroom provides a positive environment, and each student is very supportive of one another.



Throughout the course I have gotten better with self-portraiture and landscape drawing. The people around me have influenced me to become a better artist as I watch others paint and gather inspiration and techniques for my next artwork. I don't really have a specific style that best describes my artwork, but I would have to say blending with pastel colours is a favourite of mine. I enjoy using oil paints and charcoal as they can blend very easily. Something that makes the Visual Arts General class so unique is that as we all get older we start to feel more comfortable talking to the people in the same year and Art helped me find ways to talk to people by complimenting others on their artwork and asking them what techniques they used. The course is overall very welcoming, and all the teachers are very helpful when asking for guidance.

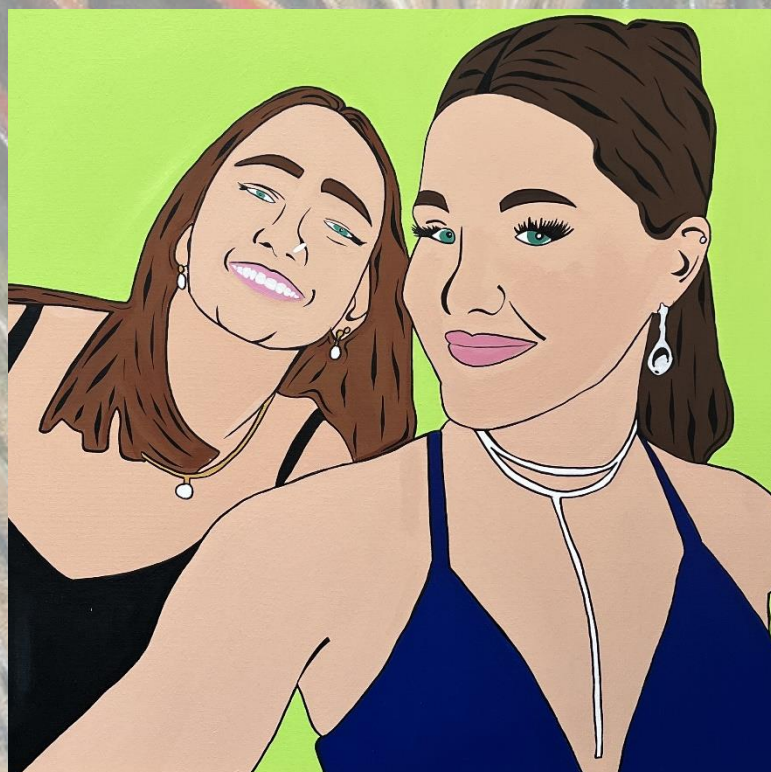


Skylar Malloch

The Visual Arts General course this year gave me the opportunity to further improve and grow in my artistic skills. Even being in Year 12 I still have so much to learn, and the Visual Arts course has provided me with that knowledge.



During the course, I think my artwork has grown by being able to work in layers and not just simply putting everything down in one go but learning how to make it look realistic by using the layering technique. Nature is one of my biggest influences in being able to see the beautiful landscapes that we are provided with each day. Another influence of mine is French Impressionist artist Claude Monet and just being able to paint what you see in that moment and not have it “staged” in any way. I would describe my style as realistic and trying to copy exactly what I see, and my favourite medium to use is oil paints because of the way they blend so smoothly. What makes the Visual Arts course such an amazing experience is being able to grow and learn through the amazing JTC Art Teachers and being able to do a subject that you can relax in.



Kirsten McCormick

During the ATAR Visual Arts course, I have had the privilege to expand both my practical and theoretical knowledge of art. Over the course of Year 11 and 12 I've had the opportunity to experiment with different mediums from oil painting to embroidery.



I really enjoyed using embroidery last year as well as experimenting with textiles this year, and it was fun to play with texture in a way that is different to traditional mediums. However, I also highly valued the time and guidance given to me to refine my painting skills. Studying Visual Arts has given me a great sense of accomplishment as I am able to see my progress over the course of two years. I would describe my style as realistic, which is why I enjoy using oils because they allow me to create highly blended artworks. My semester two artwork this year is strongly influenced by the work of Teresa Oaxaca and her crowded compositions of people surrounded by objects and draped fabric. By far my favourite part of studying ATAR Visual Arts was the unique sense of community. There is nothing better than being in a room of like-minded people who support each other and encourage each other's artistic practice.



Anna Peachey

I am in the ATAR and General Visual Arts courses, and I can definitely say there's a difference between the two. I am a ceramics student for my ATAR class and have really enjoyed the challenge of learning how to sculpt realistic figures. For Visual Arts General I have mostly painted and have loved the relaxed vibe of the classroom compared to the ATAR class which can be stressful because of deadlines.



Something that's quite unique about the Visual Arts courses is that everyone in the classroom shares the same passion for Art, unlike other subjects like maths where not all people enjoy the class, like me.

I have never been a realistic painter, unlike most of my cohort, but through my latest artwork in Visual Arts General I have loved painting in the Impressionist style, capturing nature. My style of painting is quite loose and expressive as I like to play around with texture through the thick application of paint. I really enjoy my General class because it is my only class where I can chill out and just paint and chat with my friends.

I would still recommend any younger student to do Visual Arts ATAR or General as both courses are so rewarding, and you end up producing artworks that you can be proud of. One aspect of Art ATAR that I really enjoyed was the theory aspect which was surprising to me. I loved the challenge of analysing new artworks and researching about artists thoroughly. I think I became fond of theory because I knew I could excel in this area as I had more control over my marks, whereas for practical marks it was more subjective and harder to get high scoring marks.



Jade Randall

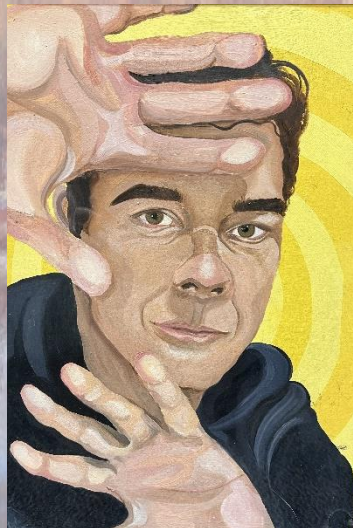
Visual Arts has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember and has a very special place in my heart. Throughout the course I have learnt to step out of my comfort zone literally and metaphorically, experimenting with new techniques, materials and ideas.



Art has opened a whole new world that allows me to be creative, innovative and spontaneous, bringing my imagination to life. I am so grateful for the opportunities Visual Arts has given me and for the people who have helped and guided me to become the artist I am now. Believe it or not, I was planning on doing Economics ATAR instead of Visual Arts ATAR. I had the idea that the Visual Arts course would make me hate Art and take the fun out of something I cherish and love with all my heart. I was very wrong, and I am super relieved I change my mind.

When I did Art, I never thought about why and who I was doing it for. I just did it, normally to procrastinate from doing my actual schoolwork. However, throughout this course my practice has developed and matured from small unfinished doodles and projects to pieces that I am proud to display, developing an understanding of the way society views art and how to appeal to people through the artistic elements and principles.

I would describe my art style as smooth, stylised and bold. I'm very spontaneous and direct when I come up with an idea, normally realising later that I've bitten off a bit more than I can chew. But I'm stubborn and always pull through with my weird ideas. Thank you to all the people who I eternally stress out for pushing me along. I love art and always will- that is a fact.



Tia Rawson

I started Visual Arts General in Year 12 as I have always valued my creative brain. I have had a calm and fun experience in Year 12 General, it has been a subject that has really calmed me in the stressful year that Year 12 was.



Before starting Visual Arts, I had not painted before, and I was not very good. Through the process of learning and with the guidance of Ms Hoy I have learnt how to paint in the style of Meisner and Lichtenstein. I was really influenced by Meisner and started to learn the process of painting portraits in this style. My style would be described as simplistic portraits and I really enjoy painting in acrylics. The Visual Arts course is a unique experience as it is very practical and is enjoyable, this class really made my year as it was growing on something I hadn't done before. I am grateful for this course as it unlocked a creative part of my brain I didn't know existed.



Jade Robertson

This year has been wonderful in terms of developing my art skills. I have had plenty of fun in Visual Arts over the course of my high school years, but Year 12 was absolutely a highlight for me. I would absolutely recommend this course to students who are looking to challenge themselves and expand their creative skills.



My artworks have come a long way from Year 7; I have learnt many valuable skills and processes and gained influence from many artists. The past few years have helped boost my confidence in terms of art making and helped to refine and personalise my art style.

I was heavily influenced in my artworks by animated shows and cartoons, as well as a variety of Impressionist artists such as Vincent Van Gogh and Claude Monet. While I am capable of realism, I prefer a more fun and personal approach to painting or drawing. I desire to paint or draw what I feel rather than what I see, such as painting the colours or patterns I see when listening to music or using certain colours to relay current emotions.

I absolutely love painting with oils as they blend gracefully and take longer to dry, therefore creating a smooth painting process. Aside from painting, I absolutely love to draw and sketch, whether it's something around me or a character of my own design. I believe every single piece of art tells a story, something deep and personal. An artwork is like a fragment of someone's personality and life experiences placed down onto canvas, wood or paper- every work of art means something to someone. As someone who has had a taste of both the General and ATAR Visual Arts courses, I would recommend the ATAR course for hard workers who are ready and motivated. ATAR Visual Arts takes time and effort and will absolutely suit creative individuals who are ready for a challenge. General Visual Arts is just as good, but much better suited to individuals like me who aren't great at following instructions or have short attention spans. General Visual Arts requires the same effort as ATAR but is much less competitive or demanding. I would absolutely recommend General to people who love getting their hands dirty but are looking for something more chilled and less structured.



Stella Sampson

Visual Arts was one of the only subjects I enjoyed and looked forward to at school. The Visual Arts course is something that I will never forget, and it has allowed me so much self-improvement and growth.



Visual Arts has provided me with the opportunity to explore ways in which I express myself and my emotions. It has allowed me to appreciate the idea that art can be both beautiful and meaningful. My class is so supportive and encouraging of each other which has allowed such a positive and welcoming environment in the Visual Arts course.

Over time and throughout the course I have seen a lot of self-improvement in my ability to capture everyday images into artwork, as well as my ability to express and depict myself in different scenarios. My artwork has been greatly influenced by James Rosenquist, Janet Fish, and many other realistic artists. I would describe my style as realistic. I like to highly blend and use vibrant colours. I prefer painting faces and people, it's fun to experiment with colours to find different skin tones and create implied textures in different facial features.

Visual Arts has provided me with a fun opportunity to experiment with different types of mediums. I really enjoyed using oil paints as well as lino cutting and pottery making. I enjoy using oil paints the most as I feel most comfortable using them and I love highly blending and mixing colours- I find it very satisfying.

Art has been such a great outlet for me to let my emotions out and onto canvas; putting things into words is always something I have struggled with, and Art has helped me to represent those words into something physical.



Violet Seah

The Visual Arts course has been a place for me in school that I've felt comfortable within. I haven't loved school, but Art has made it a lot more enjoyable.



I have always been a deep thinker and Art has nurtured and strengthened those traits and given me an outlet to do so; whilst many of my other subjects didn't offer a place to analyse the meaning of things like Art did. It provided me with a space where I felt more freedom in what I did and allowed my individuality and personal creativity to grow.

My art style has grown throughout the years but has often stuck to realism and portraiture. I have tried over the years to challenge myself with more complex techniques and different artworks. I've loved being able to create my own paintings that carry with them my own personal beliefs and perspective within their meanings. I've enjoyed looking at other artists and the way they work, especially their motives behind what they create and the spectrum of art that is created.



Asher Stevenson

The Visual Arts course has allowed to explore my interest in art while providing me with the opportunity to develop my art making skills. I have enjoyed every part of the course and I am so thankful for all the support from Ms Hoy and my classmates.



Throughout Visual Arts my art making has been influenced by multiple artists who I have been able to investigate through the written component of the course. I love the photorealist style and have tried to adapt this into my artworks. However, I am still yet to discover my own style but I know it will lie somewhere between the lines of realism and photorealism. I love how, through the manipulation of oil paint and charcoal, you are able to create pieces of art that convey ideas about the world and encourage the viewer to build an emotional connection with the subject.

The Visual Arts course in an amazing opportunity, allowing you to express and explore personal ideas while continually developing your art making skills.



Lucinda Tassone

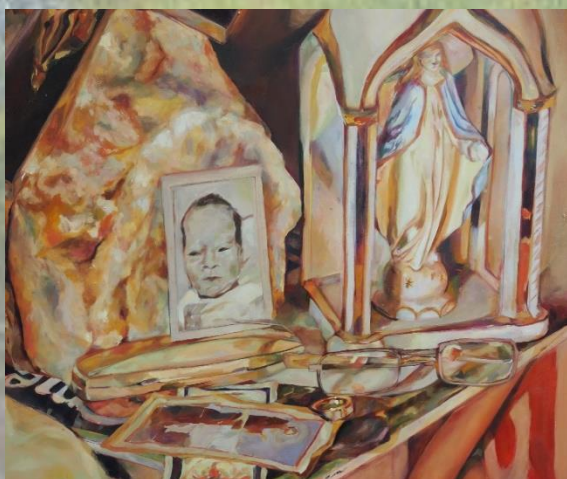


Throughout my journey in the Visual Arts course, I feel guilty not crediting my muse; my Father, Vittorio Tassone. The Visual Arts course has been challenging for me personally as I have had to improve my time management, stress, and technical skills.

I acknowledge that the subject has widened my knowledge of famous artists such as Frida Kahlo, Patricia Piccinini and Andy Warhol, as well as various artistic movements. I chose to specialise in the medium of oil painting throughout Year 11 and 12, but I enjoy other various mediums including coloured pencils, graphite, and ink.

I understand that Visual Arts is an important area of social stimulation, and it provides many the ability to explore metaphysical ideas and abstract thought. The role of Arts, whether in pop culture, music, media, construction or film has been crucial for society to function and progress throughout history. I find value in all areas of the Arts to understand larger ideas and perspectives. I will end my epilogue abruptly with a quote from my favourite author:

“Kilgore Trout once wrote a short story which was a dialogue between two pieces of yeast. They were discussing the possible purposes of life as they ate sugar and suffocated in their own excrement. Because of their limited intelligence, they never came close to guessing that they were making champagne.”



Jasmin Taylor

My experience throughout my years in Visual Arts has been nothing but positive, learning about the elements and principles, gaining confidence to show my work to others, being taught basic art techniques to better my skill foundation, and discovering my own personal art style.



The main change I have seen in my work has been my ability to trust the process and trusting myself while making art, knowing that even if it does not look 'right' in between start and finish, I can change that. Learning how to not give up on a piece is also a skill I have developed while taking Art.

My artwork is influenced by my surroundings, mainly the delicate balancing act of man-made infrastructure and nature in our world today. I would describe my style as a mix of Post Impressionism but with more emphasis on shape rather than dramatic, bright colour. I also think my style is too sketch-based to be considered classic Impressionism. I really enjoy the use of watercolours, pens and fineliners to create my artworks; I mainly enjoy their compact and travel friendly abilities so I can paint and sketch where-ever I am (capturing what is right in front of you is much more fulfilling then sketching from a photo). The Visual Arts course is so unique because every student can express themselves within the theme and guidelines of the task.



Tayla Vivian

The Visual Arts course has allowed my artistic style and oil painting skills to develop, allowing my creative side to flourish. The course has surrounded me in a positive environment with great people.



The art room atmosphere is always an enjoyable, fun, and a vibrant place. Over the years my art has matured; I have learnt how to refine a close-up of the human face and how to show emotion through my art to create an emotional response in the viewer. I like to focus on the beauty of those around me, therefore I enjoy painting human faces. I have been inspired by the people around me, specifically my family, and several photo realist artworks such as *How to be Happy* by Eric Zener. Similarly, I am inspired by the refined, realistic pieces produced by Ms Hoy.

My style is a refined style. I focus on the emotions of the face. My work generally depicts my happy surroundings with a focus on expressing the beauty of life, however I do enjoy communicating important and deeper topics through my art. I enjoy using oil paint as it can be highly blended, and I am able to achieve a varied and enhanced colour palette. The Visual Arts course is such a unique experience as it gives students creative freedom which many other subjects lack. I always look forward to Art- after all my stressful ATAR subjects I can walk in, eat a cookie, and peacefully paint while listening to fun music and chatting with friends.



Nicole Dempsey



Georgie Lister

