

Candidate 8 – Free Spirit



Process	10/10
	30/30
Skills	25/25
	25/25
Sub-total	90/90
Evaluation	6/10
TOTAL	96/100

National 5 Art and Design

Expressive portfolio – evaluation

Candidate name: xxxxxxxxxx

Candidate number: xxxxxxxxx

Centre number: xxxxxxxxxx

Instructions to candidates

You should reflect on and evaluate the creative process you followed when working through your Expressive portfolio. In your evaluation give justified personal opinions on:

- ◆ the decisions you made when working through your Portfolio;
- ◆ the effectiveness of the visual qualities of your Portfolio, referring to your theme/stimulus (10 marks)

The foundation of my expressive work is based on a semi-realistic portrait that portrays an unconquered angel in chains at the center. This artwork embodies the concept of a free spirit in captivity, the struggle between good and evil, and the triumph of life over death. My experiences and emotions surrounding Russia's aggressive actions towards Ukraine were a significant source of inspiration for this project. The realisation that people can commit horrendous acts with impunity moved me to create this piece. As a concept for my work, I chose the image of hands representing all the sins of humanity. Attempting to capture and subdue the only glimpse of purity.

My project was influenced by contemporary Asian artists as Shin-ichi Sakamoto, Yue deng kai er and Taiki, along with renowned like Rafael Santi and Sandro Botticelli. Analysing their art, I selected the aspects that resonated with me the most and incorporated them into my work.

Using an iPad and procreate, I created this project by imagining the main character's pose, but the hands were copied from public references that I found online. My initial goal was to do a portrait of an angel, but studying the aforementioned artists' works led me to create a narrative that combines angelic purity with human greed and rage I can say that I went out of my comfort zone and drew what I rarely drew before.

Choosing to draw a full-body figure of a girl and incorporating hands were pivotal decisions that transformed the concept of my work beyond a mere angelic portrait.

The aspect I enjoyed the most about this project was paying close attention to detail. I devoted significant time to drawing feathers, hair, arms, and shackles, which may seem insignificant, but they gave the work a sense of richness and intrigue that is appealing to viewers. Colors played a crucial role in establishing contrast between the bright angel and the hands that appeared to be emerging from the darkness, and I emphasized the main character's face, especially her bright, light blue eyes without pupils, to create a metaphor for blindness. The angel is unaware of humanity's atrocities and still has faith in people's ability to improve.

I believe that my work will resonate with viewers and leave a lasting impression. It speaks to personal issues and experiences that people can relate to, and I hope it will encourage them to reflect on their own lives.

Commentary on candidate evidence

Candidate 8 – Free Spirit

Section 1 - expressive portfolio - process

This portfolio shows highly relevant investigative research.

The candidate has presented two investigative studies along with a range of considered supporting images that are appropriate and relate to the 'Free Spirit' theme.

This aspect was awarded 10 of the 10 marks available.

This portfolio shows highly effective development and refinement of one idea leading to the production of a final piece.

The development studies show visual continuity from the previous stage and a clear line of focused development. Visual continuity is achieved through the use of the key figure and elements developed through a range of focused compositions, leading to a very successful and refined final piece. This was judged to be at the top of the highly effective range.

This aspect was awarded 30 of the 30 marks available.

Section 2 - expressive portfolio - skills

This portfolio shows highly effective use of materials, techniques and/or technology in response to their theme.

A range of materials and techniques have been used with skill and control. Studies in coloured pencil, pen and the subtle and sensitive use of watercolour show a high level of skill and competence in line and colour. The handling of digital media is strong, culminating in a final piece that shows maturity and high levels of skill. This was judged to be at the top of the highly effective range.

This aspect was awarded 25 of the 25 marks available.

This portfolio shows highly effective use of appropriate visual elements and expressive effects in response to their theme.

Composition and viewpoint have been fully considered along with the use of framing to fully develop the idea. A strong sense of mood and atmosphere has been created through the dramatic effect of tone, colour and lighting combined with the expression of the figure, her pose and the surrounding hands. This skilful and considered use of elements and effects leads to a final piece with immediate visual impact.

This aspect was awarded 25 of the 25 marks available.

Section 3 - expressive portfolio - evaluation

This expressive evaluation shows personal opinion expressed showing some justification and critical evaluation of the decisions made and the effectiveness of the visual qualities of their portfolio.

The evaluation is well structured, the candidate discusses the personal rationale behind the idea and describes the investigation work, although with little evaluation. The evaluation improves as evaluative comments are being developed, these are combined with further description about the effectiveness of the decisions made throughout the folio.

This evaluation was awarded 6 of the 10 marks available.

Total: 96 marks