

I have always been interested and influenced in deformed figures like monsters or fantastic creatures rather than perfect representations of humans. I feel there is some sort of beauty and excitement in distorted figures, as imperfections can sometimes characterize the charm and pleasingness of a person. My body of work explores the human being and its many characteristics. I have always adored exaggerated portraiture and eerie representations of humans, such as portrayal of characters from comic strips, cartoons and movies. Initially my work focused on the human activity in the Parisian streets, as seen in *The vendor on the streets*, which initially is a photograph of a stall market in the 16e arrondissement. This piece represents the recurrent liveliness and motion of the french capital.

My oeuvres as a whole have been based on different aspirations and techniques, but they all relate to the theme of human imperfections and distortion. Stephane Mandelbaum's drawing technique influenced me as he depicts perfectly this idea of distortion and human imperfection. The majority of my artworks are based on portrayals of human characteristics while linking this idea with different compelling colour schemes. Furthermore, David Hockney was also a recurrent aspiration for his line drawing technique which utilises thin lines and rather simplistic representation of portraits and figures. My works have incorporated sculptural, textural elements and different media like clay, oil pastels and ink. For example, the use of clay in *The 5 Faces* permitted me to model rugged and uneven textures to convey the many flaws relating to the theme of human facial attributes.

The overall vision for my exhibition is stylized and visual. Even though the majority of my work pieces are not substantial, I chose to leave significant spaces between each artwork to represent this symmetrical feel and to draw the audience's attention to each of the pieces as individuals. The composition and artistic build - up of my exhibition is linear and fragmented by the evolution of my themes / ideas and my artistic evolution over 2 years. The audience arrives from the left hand side of the exhibition primarily observing my two stencil pieces and my series of three visages ranging in media. (oil pastel, coloured marker, black marker). This introduction to the audience of my work emphasizes on my ambitions to explore portraiture and its many characteristics. The continuity of my retrospective evolves into larger scales of format and equally into the exploration of bright color schemes and the incorporation of motifs and patterns in some of the works. *My Aunt* best represents my motive to experiment with vibrant primary colours like yellow and orange which are prominent pigments of the "Pop art" culture. These two works also embody and relate to the theme of family, as it was primordial for me to vehiculate and represent the people I love the most. As the exhibition furthers, the artworks proposed become more flexible as regard to the depth of artistic concepts. *Multiple faces* and *Motion man* best represent this evolution into the contrast between portraiture and abstract feelings in the surroundings of the pieces for example

My intention to represent visages and its many forms and styles is an important aspect of my exhibition. Incorporating caricatured aspects of faces, line drawings and patterns reinforces the visual quality of my body of work. As majoritarily being focused on representative feelings of human features in terms of composition, I tried to further my artistic capabilities by installing a clear boundary between figurative and abstract elements. Indeed, my style of portraiture towards the end of the diploma developed into the incorporation of abstract lines and patterns strengthening my work. I reflected on how the positioning of my oeuvres would affect how the

audience interpreted the layout of the exhibition. Logically, as the center intersection of an exhibition is the most attractive for the viewer, I decided to place my largest piece and my series of wooden panels in the middle because one is eye catching due to the dazzling color scheme and the others being complementary in terms of patterns, lines techniques and red acrylic utilized.