

Practitioner's Statement

Through the Looking Glass

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For my second piece, I had "artist's block", and couldn't think of anything to create. I knew that I wanted to do something completely different, something that I haven't done before. I ended up creating a depiction of Alice falling into my wonderland, comprised of geometric shapes and platonic solids.

My initial concept was to create a looking glass that had psychedelic imagery inside that would remind the viewer of an Alice in Wonderland concept. My idea came from several dreams and epiphanies, where I looked into a mirror and saw something happening inside. I didn't look at any artists who have done similar things to what I did. Instead, I was inspired by things from pop culture such as Lady Gaga's performances, a Chanel runway, and a music video from Swedish musician Robyn.

The process I went through began with sketching what I anticipated it to look like, and experimenting with what I wanted to put inside the mirror. I then refined my vision and constructed the pieces. I then brought all the pieces together towards completion. One skill I picked up was constructing a large circular box using hot glue, as it was something new to me. A skill I refined was creating shapes and miscellaneous geometric objects using paper, as I have done so before, but not to an advanced level like what I have achieved. I did not have any artists who inspired me, rather I took some inspiration from recent events such as Lady Gaga's debut stage at the VMAs and Chanel's spring runway. The similarities we had were that they used white paper predominantly to construct their stages. They used minimal amounts of colour to draw the attention to the colours being used.

The concept behind my work is that I wanted Alice to fall into my wonderland. I have a fondness for geometric shapes and 3-D models, as the symmetry and grandeur just fascinate me. I wanted to incorporate that into my work as I have not played with my much loved concept in my art at all. I have created a geometric forest in my head where I roam, and I thought placing Alice into it would make for an interesting piece. Having the mirror frame look old and antiqued creates a striking contrast against the modern looking inside. My work juxtaposes the old tale of Alice in Wonderland with my own modern twisted fantasy.

I think I was quite successful in creating this work, as I have visually represented my place of escape in my head into reality. The geometric concept looks far more effective than the psychedelic imagery I first wanted to use, which I am glad about. The piece is something new to me, and I am pleased that I am able to put a concept into fruition using my creativity.