

## *She's Got Passion*

### **Haylee Nicholas**

I created a mixed media piece titled 'She's Got Passion'. This title was chosen as putting a lot of passion into my artworks is something that is crucial to me. My theme was 'creativity as a gift' with a focus on how art and cultivating my creativity has played a significant role in my life and how it has shaped me as a person and young artist.

My final artwork was a self-portrait and was created using acrylic paint, paper and cellophane. I began with planning what I wanted to show visually. I knew I wanted to include a self-portrait as it suited my theme as it was personal and focused on art in my own life. My self-portrait depicts me with art supplies in hand and a thoughtful expression. This pose was chosen as I wanted to convey the idea of me being in my element when I'm using my creativity.

I used the symbolism of gold frames to convey the idea of capturing and encapsulating certain ideas and included 18 frames to represent 18 years of my life as a young artist. In the inside of the frames I stuck pictures which I took and edited which were a collection of places, people and things that have had or have an influence on my own creativity as an artist.

I made a frequent use of complementary colours throughout the piece. Painting the wall depicted in different green hues to create depth contrasts with the magenta colour of the jumper I painted in my self-portrait. These two focal colours made the bright yellows and oranges of the painted frames appear more distinct.

The style I painted my portrait in was influenced by Van Gogh's short post-impressionist styled brushstrokes and my use of complementary underpainting for the portrait. This allowed colours to peek through the portrait, making it appear more colourful and vibrant. I was influenced by Christina Troufa's use of dividing, straight lines and negative space. I implemented a horizontal dividing line between the wall and desk pictured in my piece. The works of Andy Warhol inspired the screen printing effects I created using photoshop to edit the photos I stuck inside the painted frames. I was particularly inspired by his use of contrasting and complementary colours and the effects he created using silkscreen printing in works such as 'Shot Marilyn's' and 'Big Electric Chair'.

My intention was to create a piece that reflected my love for being creative and to create piece that would connect with young artists my age who also have a love and passion for art.