



Foundation Diploma in Art and Design Unit 3: Developing Specialist Practice



Yeha Leung Nipples are removed please don't attack me @ instagram 8 July, 2018



Ana Rajcevic Animal: The Other Side of Evolution 2012



Kate Langrish Smith artefact III 2014

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Contextual Review:

In Part One of the Foundation in Art and Design, I was exposed to new approaches to creating which pushed me to be more expressive and experimental in my process which ultimately lead me to creating my final outcome for the Jewellery, Footwear and Fashion Accessories extension project brief. While exploring the different areas of art and design, I was challenged by workshops like Lost letters (Illustration), Your Surroundings (Fashion Design), Revelation of Erasure (Painting) and Message Vacuum (Fine Art 4D) while other workshops like Your Possessions (Textile Design), Wear It (Jewellery, Footwear & Fashion Accessories) and Explore It (Product Design & Ceramics) were workshops that I could apply my previous technical skills to. Nevertheless, exploring the different mediums and approaches to creating and thinking have lead me to produce my first piece where I begin to investigate the our understanding of our body's natural forms and movement and how we might respond to them.

Your Surroundings and Lost Letters are both workshops that challenged me. In the Your Surroundings workshop, it was challenging for me to work without knowing the final outcome because I have previously always had some idea of what I wanted to produce a final outcome. I was exposed to the concept of taking inspiration from the most basic and organic shapes from my surroundings without knowing how they will be used. This allowed me to work limitlessly without restricting my thought process to a specific outcome. In contrast, in the Lost Letters workshop, I needed to consider the limitations of the screen-printing process in order to achieve a high standard finish which I think could have been better as this was the first time I had used the screen-printing technique. These workshops are similar because they are both methods and techniques that are unfamiliar to me and urged me experiment and adapt to the visual choices I made. I think that the Your Surroundings workshop suited me more because it allowed me to explore and experiment

with shape and form limitlessly rather than overthinking my visual and practical approach. The Your Surroundings workshop utilised my strengths more because it allowed me to be expressive and experiment with unconventional approaches.

Practitioners that influenced my final outcome process include Yeha Leung, Ana Rajcevic and Iris Van Herpen because of their use of materials, visual language and approach to mimicking the body. Leung's practise makes use of synthetic materials like PVC, vinyl and acrylic crystals to create contrast on the body. I've applied elements such as the use of synthetic, man-made materials like polypropylene, hot glue and plastic sheets to my outcomes so that my audience can begin to contemplate the known form of the body by only slightly revealing it through the opaqueness of the plastic. In Rajcevic's Animal: The Other Side of the Evolution, she mimics the forms of the human body through sculptural animal-like exoskeletons using materials like resin, fibreglass and silicone. Van Herpen's practise follows ideology surrounding biomimicry through "symbiotic relationships, exploring the hidden beauty at the intersection of precision and chaos... the artificial and the organic" (Van Herpen, I.). As my works often balance on the body or restrict its movement, Rajcevic and Van Herpen have been influential practitioners in my thinking process as I mimic the natural form of the body only to challenge its natural movement.

The self-managed nature of the extension project was challenging at first while I was generating ideas for my outcome. I initially chose the Product Design & Ceramics (Explore It workshop) brief because I enjoyed creating for a client-initiated brief. The brief required that we generate over 20 ideas which was challenging for me because of the design focused and transformative nature of Product Design. Because of product design's nature, I changed my project to the Jewellery, Footwear & Fashion Accessories (Wear It) brief so that I could approach it using expressive elements from art while keeping in mind what the accessory needs to achieve for a client, to suspend, support and surround. I think this pathway is suited to me because I enjoy using the body as both a guiding and restricting factor in leading my decisions. Through my practise, I want my users and audience to consider the organic forms and movement of the body and what it might mean to restrict these factors. The outcome of my extension project was originally intended to be a polypropylene neck piece that both mimics its natural shape and hinders its movement. My outcome is made from synthetic materials to unite the accessory with the body however this could be improved by using a reflective acrylic to create a greater contrast between the texture of human skin and the accessory.

Word Count: 783

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