Candidate 4 - Masked Emotions



Process	8/10	
	18/30	
Skills	13/25	
	13/25	
Sub-total	52/90	
Evaluation	8/10	
TOTAL	60/100	



Higher Art and Design Expressive portfolio — evaluation				
Candidate name:		Candidate number:		
Centre number:				

Instructions to candidates

You should reflect on and critically 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)

This evaluation must be submitted on the first sheet of your **expressive portfolio**. Please do not amend the format of this document.

For my expressive portfolio, I chose to do a portraiture folio. I made this decision because of the idea I had to associate my folio with the current pandemic. My theme is masked emotions, because many people as well as myself have struggled a great deal with reading people's facial expressions due to the mask regulations. It's almost become a part of society, and as the pandemic went on, it was normalised for people to make their expressions more 'expressive' and emphasised so that others could identify their emotion that they were trying to express. The visual elements I wanted to explore were colour, line and shape to create realistic looking portraits.

I wanted to express a tense atmosphere throughout my pieces, with confused facial expressions emphasised so that the facial expressions were clear despite the presence of the masks. I also used shape, paying close attention to raised eyebrows, as they made the expressions a lot clearer in my portraits. Despite my theme, I kept using muted colours to keep the realistic appearance of the portraits.

I used three different materials, pencil, watercolour and acrylic. After using watercolour, I decided that the colours weren't drying on the paper the same colour I wanted them to, so I then made the decision to not use this material again in the future. After using pencils to create a tonal piece, I soon realised that the material did not work for me, as it would smudge continuously on my hands while I was drawing. While using acrylic, I was instantly very pleased with the outcome - the colours were easy to mix and it was very useful when going back through the piece to fix my mistakes. Using acrylics also allowed me to achieve thick expressive brush strokes to add to the mood of the painting. This was also my strongest material, which made me choose to use acrylic paint for my final piece.

I chose my final composition to challenge myself. Drawing a side profile challenged me a lot, especially as most of the facial expressions were covered with either a mask or his hair. I chose to make my piece a larger size than my other pieces as there was more space for me to go in and add more detail to create my portraits more realistic, I chose acrylic because the colours allowed for me to create a realistic and expressive portrait with my brush strokes. I didn't learn any new techniques, although I learnt to embrace my mistakes.

If I were to go back to my final piece, I would concentrate more on painting the clothes. The clothes take up a lot of space in the portraits, and I feel as though there isn't as much detail in the clothes as there could be. I would achieve this by taking reference images with better lighting, as the colours are quite flat, meaning that I had to improvise a lot of the details in my portraits. I would also create more shadows in the images, in order to make the two stand out more from the lockers.

Higher Expressive Portfolio Commentary Candidate 4 - Masked Emotions

Section 1 - Expressive Portfolio - Process

This portfolio shows relevant and focused investigative research.

The candidate has conducted relevant and focused research studies of the portraits which feature throughout the portfolio. An investigation including a face from a different viewpoint, as attempted later in the portfolio, could more effectively prepared the candidate for the subsequent development studies.

This aspect was awarded 8 of the 10 marks available.

This portfolio shows an effective focused single line of development demonstrating refinement leading to the production of a final piece.

A clear single line of development is evident through the development studies and progression towards the final piece. The candidate has explored the interaction between the characters by varying the pose and framing in an effective way.

This aspect was awarded 18 of the 30 marks available.

Section 2 - Expressive Portfolio - Skills

This portfolio shows effective creative and skilful use of appropriate materials, techniques and/or technology for visual effect in response to their theme.

The candidate has used a range of media effectively to depict their subject matter. The candidate has chosen to apply the media in an expressive 'painterly' style and has done so effectively for this level.

This aspect was awarded 13 of the 25 marks available.

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

The candidate has created mood and atmosphere by using composition and the visual elements, showing a level of skill that places this aspect just into the effective marks range. The candidate also displays effective consideration of mood and atmosphere which is evident in the relationship between the two masked figures.

This aspect was awarded 13 of the 25 marks available.

Section 3 - Expressive Portfolio - Evaluation

This expressive evaluation shows justified critical evaluation of the effectiveness of decisions and the visual qualities of their portfolio, with reference to their theme.

The candidate has made strong and well justified evaluative points about their choice of theme for the portfolio and the decisions they have made as their portfolio develops. Honest and reflective points have also been made about working with a range of materials and marks have been awarded accordingly.

This evaluation was awarded 8 of the 10 marks available.

Total: 60 marks