

Art in Action 2014

KELOWNA  GALLERY

# Back to Basics



# “Together We Learn”

SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 23 (CENTRAL OKANAGAN)

**Our Mission:** To educate students in a safe, inspirational learning environment where every student develops the knowledge and skills to be a lifelong learner and a healthy productive member of our global society.

**Our Vision:** School District No. 23 (Central Okanagan) is a progressive leader in education, which sets the standards for educational excellence and ensures that every student has opportunities to succeed.

The Central Okanagan School District believes very strongly in the critical role that the arts play in the education of our students. We are proud of the cooperative relationship that exists with the Kelowna Art Gallery, and we very much appreciate the enrichment opportunities that this relationship provides to our teachers and students. We thank the staff of the Kelowna Art Gallery for the priority they place in showcasing the student work and encouraging our young artists.

Hugh Gloster, Superintendent of Schools

# Introduction

## KELOWNA ART GALLERY

For the past twenty seven years, the Kelowna Art Gallery has worked closely with the art teachers in School District No. 23, showcasing exemplary art created by high school and middle school students. Art in Action is an excellent opportunity for students to show their work in a professional environment, and provide an opportunity for the general public to celebrate the accomplishments of these youth.

We are happy to launch our first online catalogue of student work, featured on both the School District No. 23 website, and on the Kelowna Art Gallery website. The works of art were selected from the *Back to Basics* exhibition in 2014.

I would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of the art teachers in School District No. 23 for their ongoing support. The following art teachers participated in the *Back to Basics* exhibition: Farah Canuel, Jim Elwood, Patty Funnell, George Greedy, Marcy James, Angela Hansen, Tim Mayer, Susan Neilson, Stephanie Pachon, Jackie Poirier, and Diana Suzuki-Jaegli.

Renée Burgess, Head of Public Programming  
Kelowna Art Gallery

# Selected Works

# Julia

I think this quotation is a perfect explanation of my work in portraiture:

“Someday you will be old enough to read fairytales again.”

– C.S. Lewis



*Her Majesty*  
watercolour and graphite

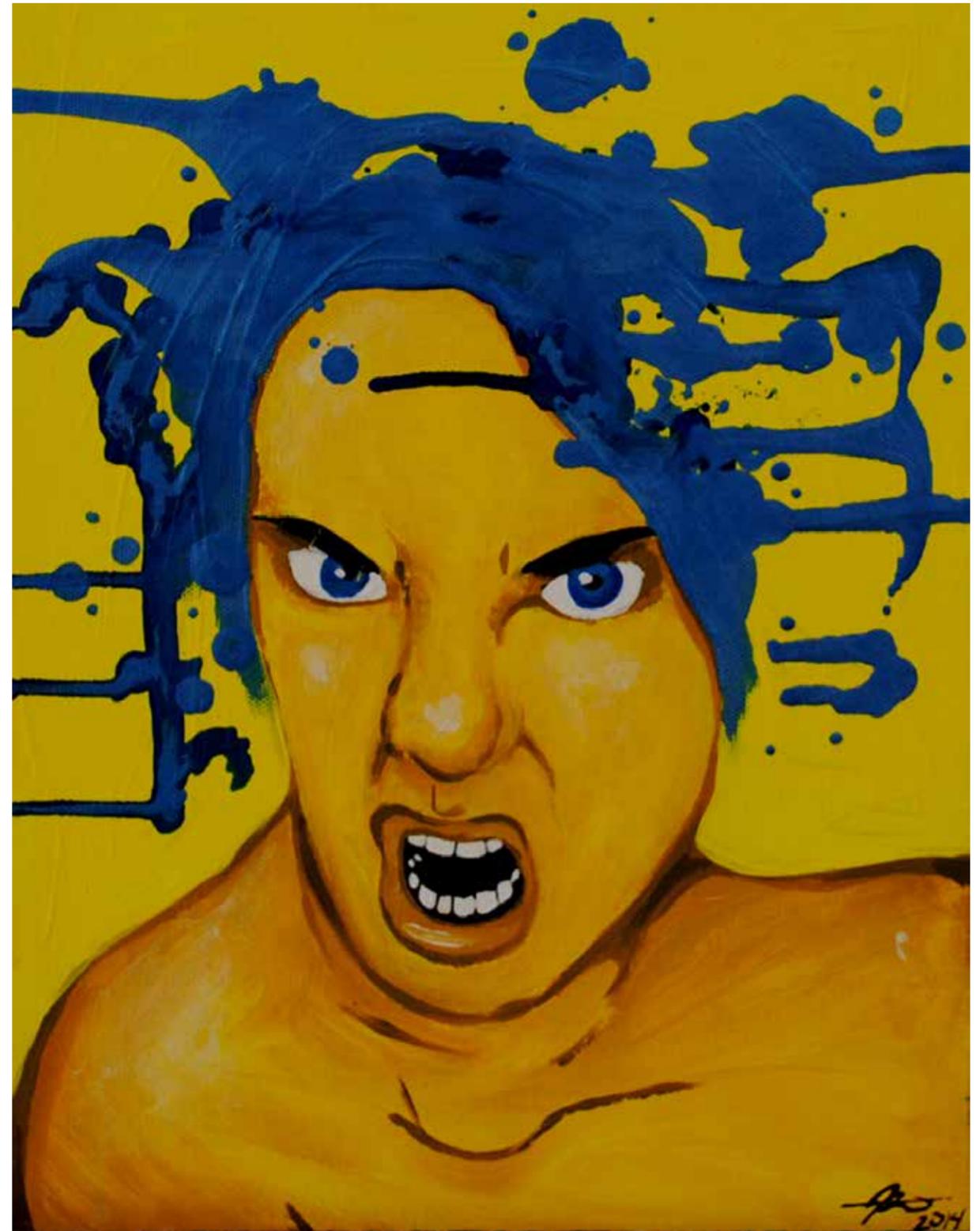
# Belle

I like fantasy art and had the idea to draw an elf as I was listening to music one night. It started out as just the ear, but it then expanded to a hood that looked like it was for an elf.



# Brittany

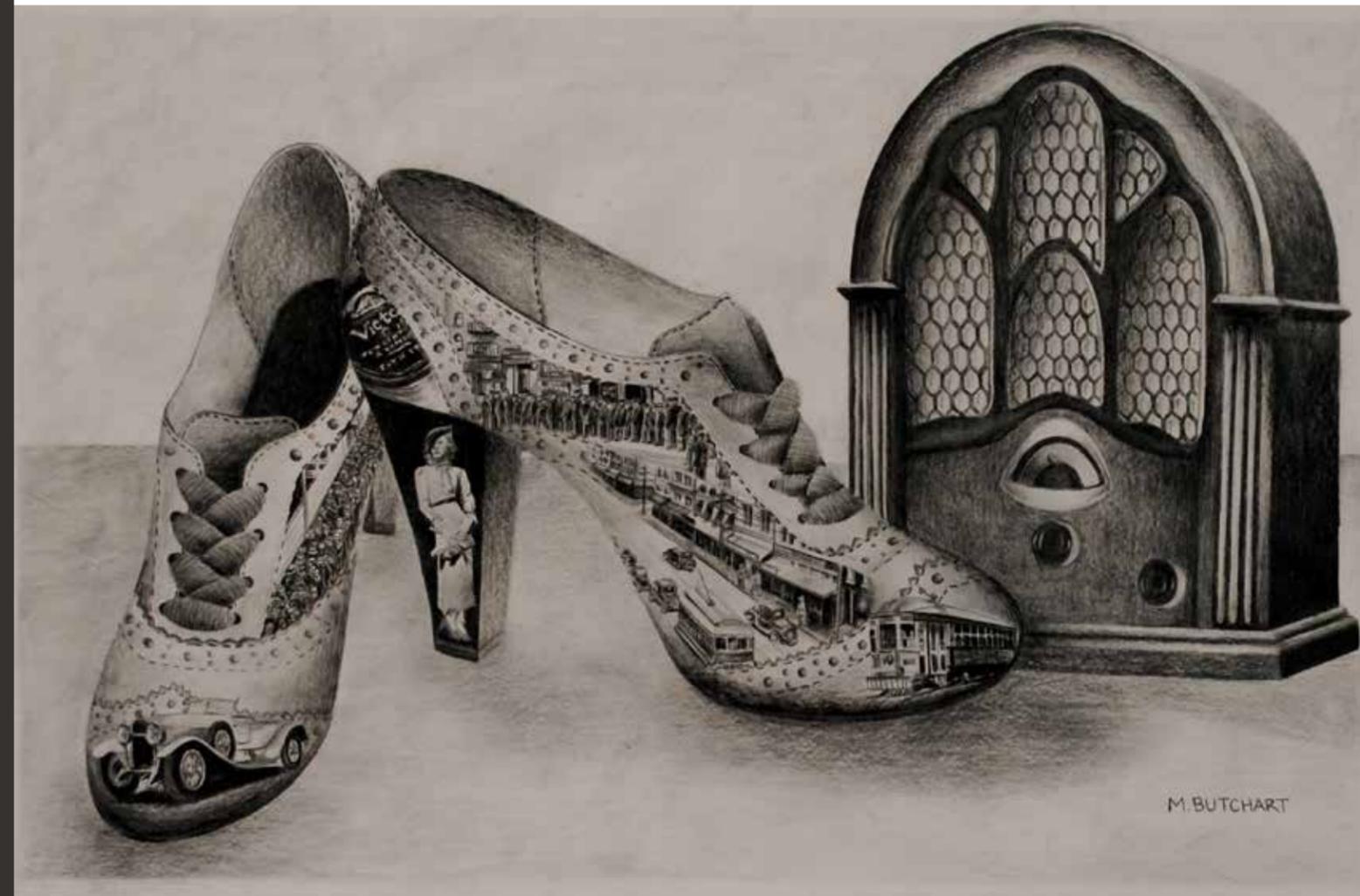
This highly charged image shows a person in a deep state of consuming anger. The bright yellows emphasize the feelings of power and authority, or lack of, that this person forcefully commands. The shimmering, dripping blue mass of colour brings out the wild nature and chaotic state of mind of the subject being portrayed. As human beings, we are each coloured by our emotions.



*A Splash of Wrath*  
mixed media

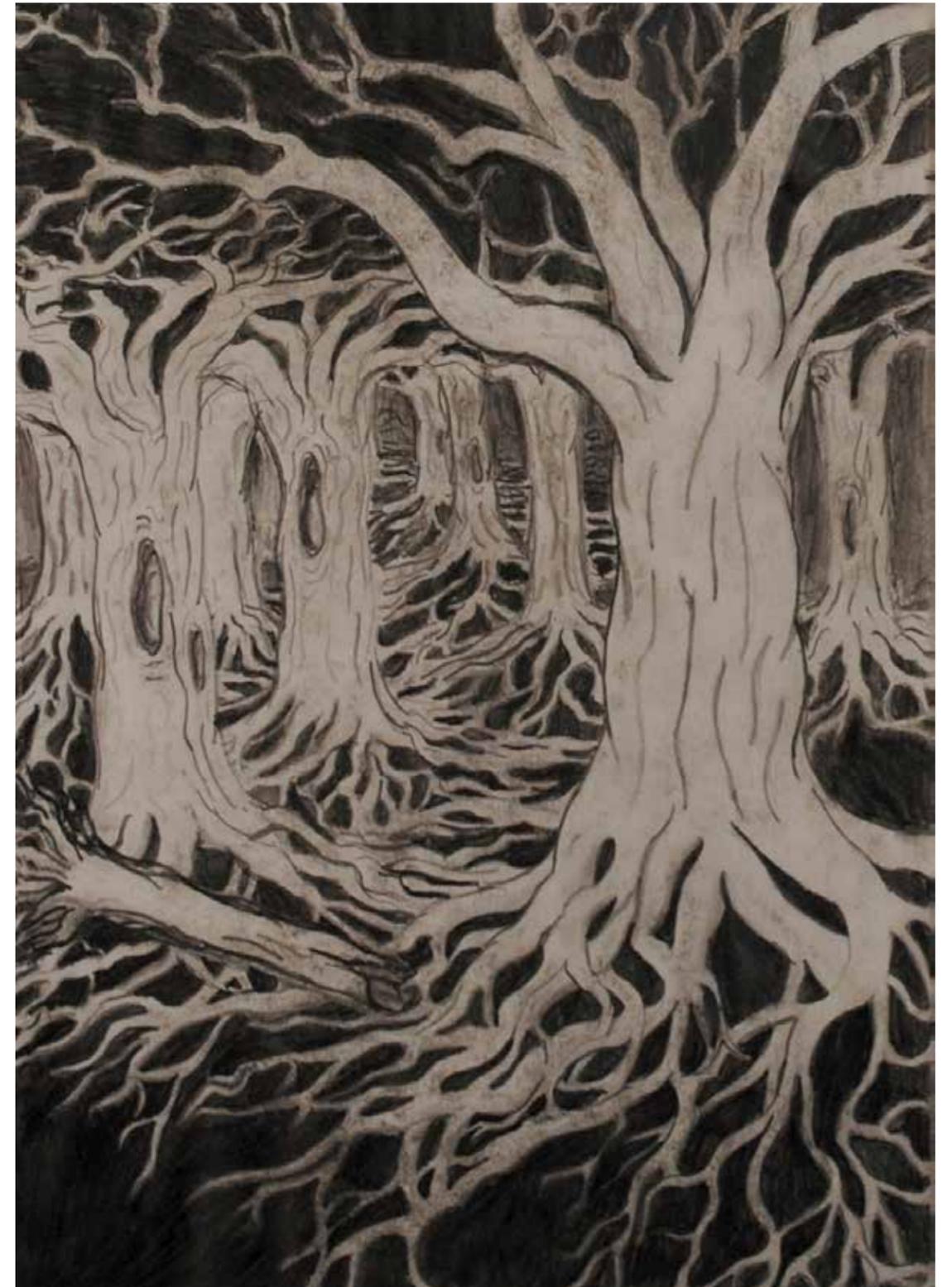
# Megan

*A Step Back in Time* depicts what life was like in the 1930's. These shoes were a popular style worn in that time and within them I chose to include images one might encounter in that era. I was inspired by the determination and perseverance of the people who lived through the Great Depression and I tried to give a balanced representation of the good and bad, from the breadlines to the glamour of Hollywood. The radio represents a link to the outside world, not only as a source of communication but also as a source of entertainment and an escape from the hardships of everyday life.



# Kale

Trees are known for drawing up life nutrients (energy) from the earth through their roots and trunk systems, and releasing oxygen into the atmosphere. This pencil drawing shows the balance and relationship of upside down and the right side up, since the image can also be viewed turned 180 degrees. We can presume then that the trees are also drawing energy from the sun and air in through their leaves, branches, central trunk systems, and eventually down into their roots to nourish the earth that sustains us all.



*Lost in the Woods*  
graphite

# Brittany

This piece was inspired by the works of Michael V. Manalo, especially his unique style of digital photo manipulation. This specific creation is designed to get the audience to wonder what lies beyond the road, be it bliss or despair, and what needs to be done to get to one's true desires.



# Tiffany

This piece is inspired by the song Let Her Go, written by Michael David Rosenberg and performed by Passenger.



# Mizuki

I chose to include some Zen tangles in my art because they are my favourite art form. I like how you have so much creative freedom with them and they also look elegant and neat. I chose to include fawns because they represent both determination and gentleness, wind because it symbolizes being both playful and soothing, and daisies because they represent simplicity. These are all things that are meaningful to me.



# Dylan

I wanted to convey the complication and confusion human society can create in the modern world. We're about to reach a point when our population will be so high we will have to stack building upon building, and people upon people ...



# Sarah

This painting was inspired by Ted Harrison's art. The image I chose to paint was of the coast of Croatia. Not only is my family from there, but it's one of my favourite places in the world. I love how the colours of the sky work with the colours of the sea.



# Johanna

In this assignment we picked a landscape photograph and used oil pastels to copy it. We learned to layer the colours and we learned how to blend colours together. The hardest thing in this assignment was getting colours to be the same as they were in the picture. I was happy with how it turned out because the colours ended up being very similar to those in the original picture.



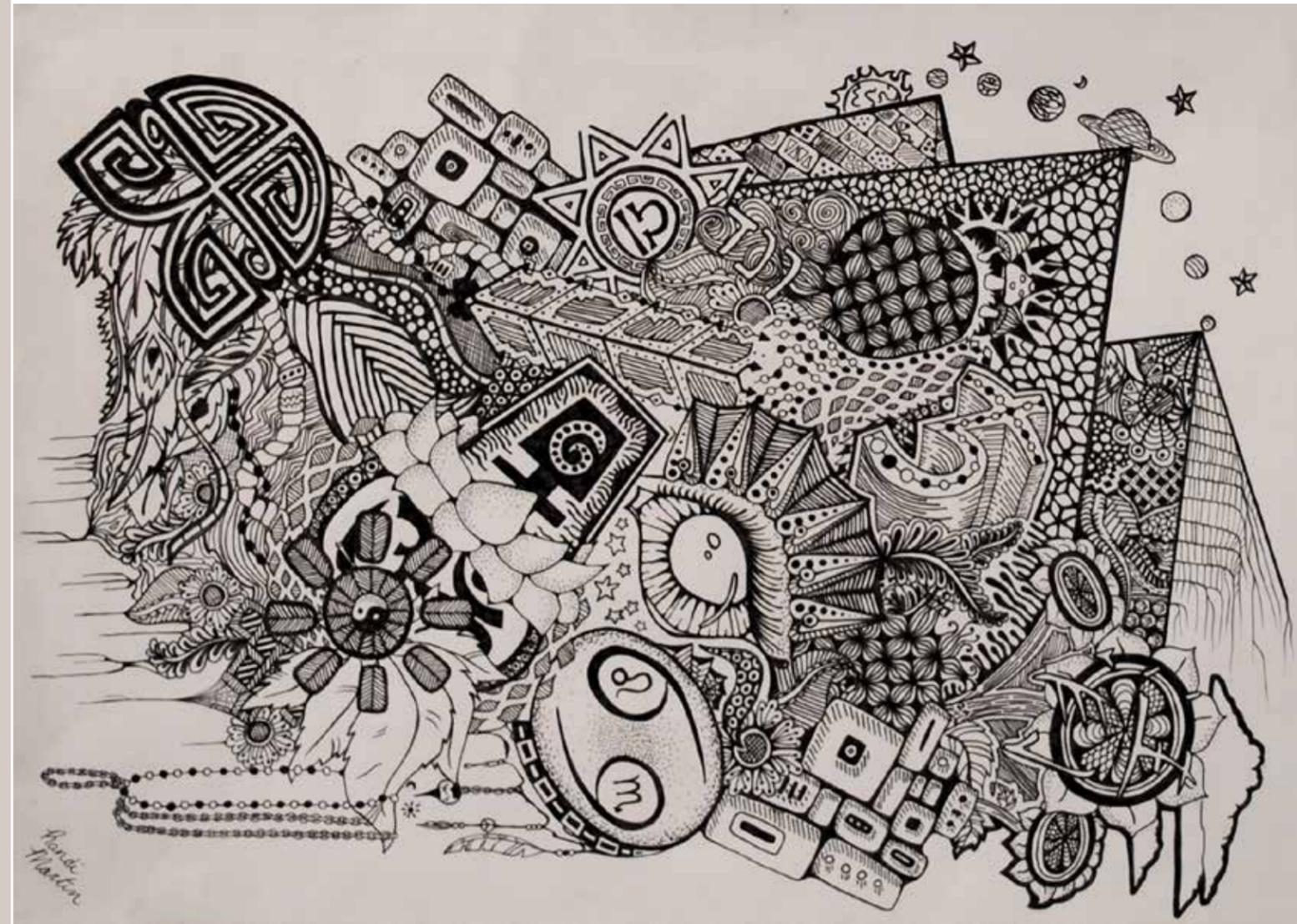
# Jake

I chose to place my main subject, the face of the jaguar, in the middle of the sheet to draw the viewer into the work. This placement also creates movement because it appears as if the jaguar is walking into the picture. I wanted the viewer to notice the colour, texture, and detail of the face, so I left the background black and white to emphasize those things and again direct the viewer's eye to the middle of the work. I layered a mix of warm colours to create the effect of soft fur and used darker colours in some areas to create contrast and balance.



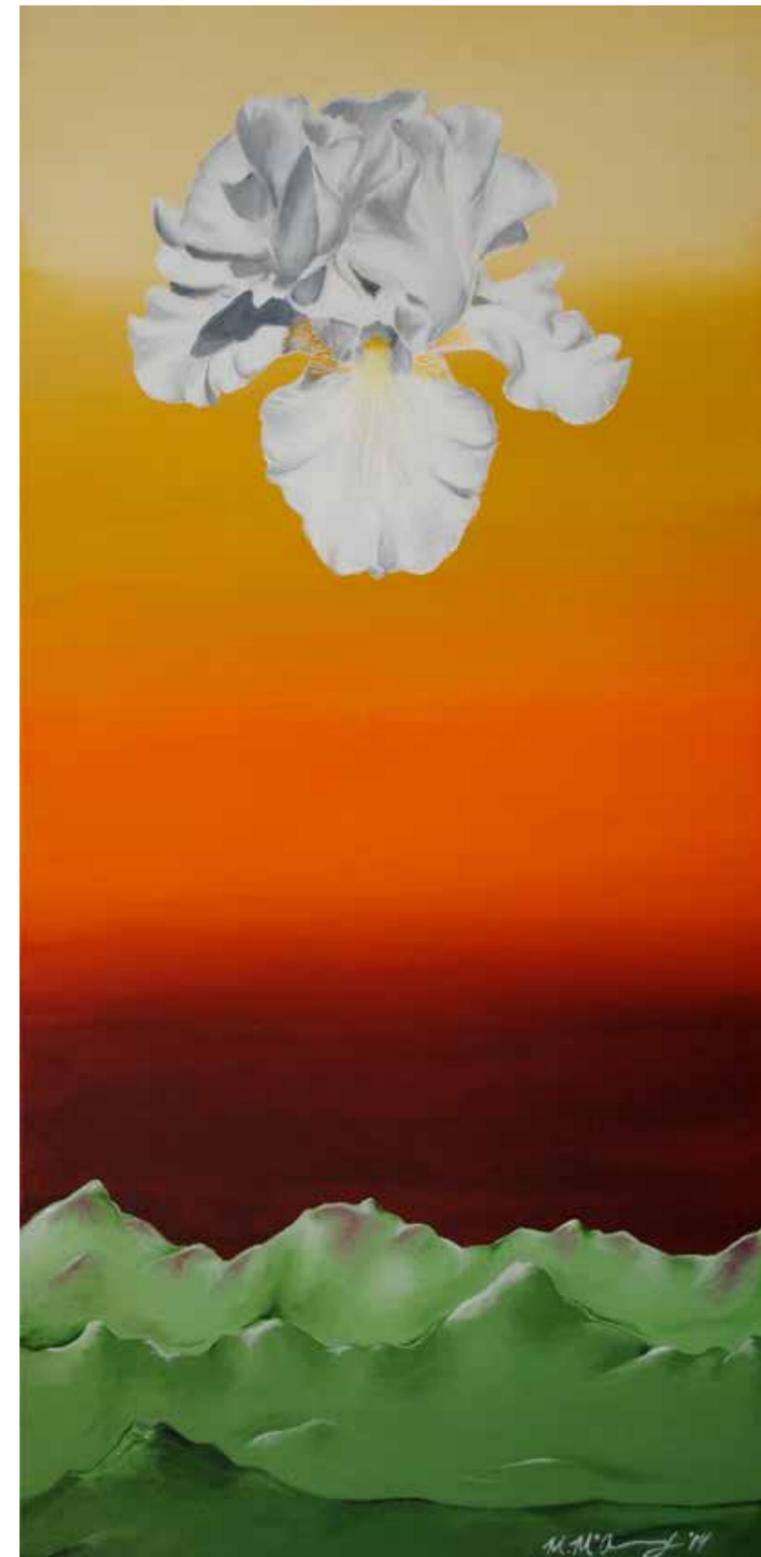
# Randi Lynn

There are symbols in this piece that represent different characteristics within myself.



# Michelle

I am fascinated with the beauty of one single organism. This painting is a juxtaposition of the vastness of our universe with the singularity of one white iris.



*Skies: 1 White Iris*  
acrylic on canvas

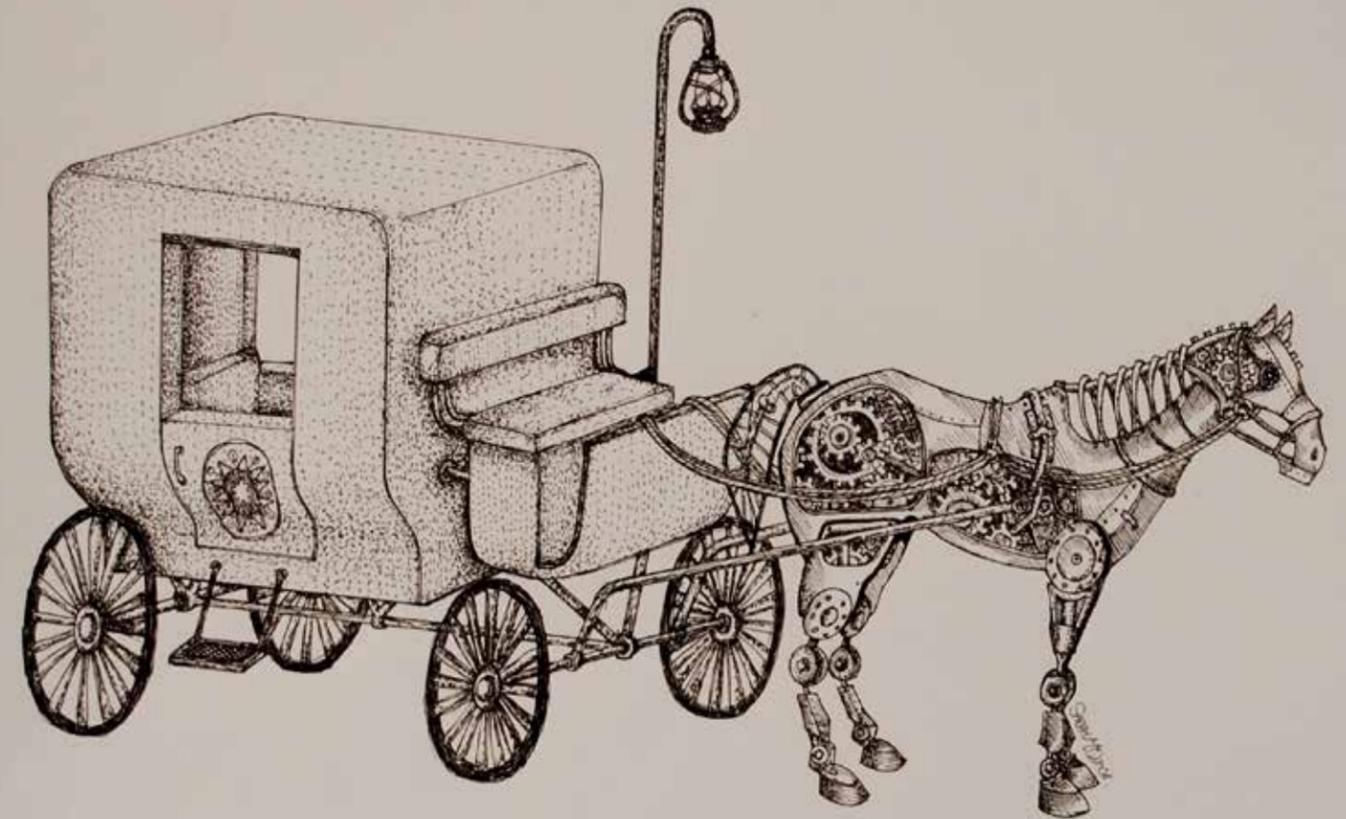
# Holly

This drawing is of my cousin Jaylie. I worked from a photograph of her that I took on a sunny day last summer. She was three years old and was wearing sunglasses that were a bit too big for her. Value was a very important element in creating this piece. Using the full value scale helped me create contrast, which was essential to making the drawing look realistic. My favourite part of this piece is the sunglasses. I like them because I really took my time to get the value right so they would pop and give a central focus to the face.



# Sarah

For the *Back To Basics* theme given to the schools by the *Art in Action 2014* exhibit, my art teacher gave us a sub-theme to work with – “past, present, and future.” I used traditional line drawing to illustrate an old fashioned carriage being pulled by a futuristic, robotic horse. I was inspired by the contrast between past and future, as well as a concept I had seen in a steam punk styled video game, *Bioshock Infinite*.



# Katrina

In my art class, we were making sculptures out of clay. I couldn't decide what to do, and my twin had chosen to make the Dr. Seuss character Thing 2. I decided I would do another character from his stories, the Cat in the Hat.



# Daylath

I did a Ted Harrison styled painting with my unique artistic signature. My goal was to create a painting that showed the landscape of Canada. So, to depict Canada's beauty I painted glaciers, pine trees, and added various tones of blue to create the lake. I produced one of my favourite evening skies by adding deep sunset colours. I wanted to show people that we live in a beautiful place and I added what I thought made it so.



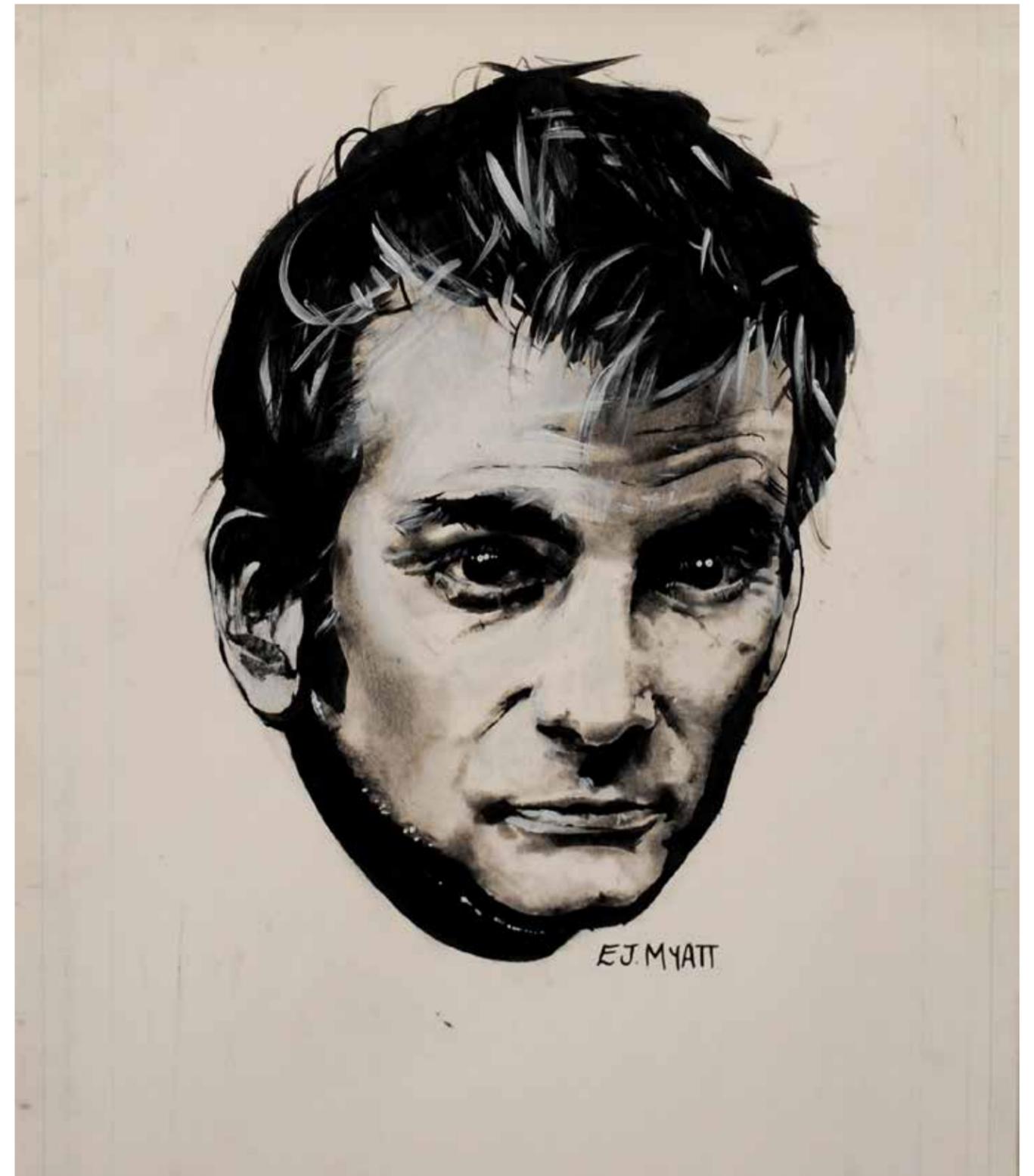
# Trenton

My work explores how power can cause corruption and make innocent people do terrible things. My good friend William Zittlau and I were walking when we noticed a small ant hill. We realized how easy it would be to cause chaos and discord in the everyday life of the ants. Just one kick and we could destroy an entire civilization. Through this, we realized how small and insignificant the human race may be, especially compared to any greater power that may exist. My photograph demonstrates freeze photography, and the use of hue and saturation in concentrated areas. To accomplish this, I used Adobe Photoshop CS6.



# Emily

Time and space are seen as black and white. There is perhaps the tiny flicker of a flying blue box among the stars.



*David*  
charcoal and india ink

# Amy

Inspiration and encouragement are two things that I wanted to accentuate in my paper clay legacy art piece. By creating something that shows the endless possibilities that the youth of today possess, I believe I have achieved that goal. My sculpture is comprised of two separate pieces – the hands, and the ball that will eventually be set atop them. I wanted to make a visual statement that the future is literally in our hands and that if the youth of today come together, we can create a strong platform to support the weight of the world. A world where every single person has the ability make an impact of some kind; one where each individual can choose to stand out and be one in a million. I am thrilled to be able to create this legacy art project because art has made a substantial difference in my life. To be able to inspire others through my passion is an excellent opportunity, and one that I will learn from and look back on for years to come.

**George Elliot Secondary School**



*Full of Potential*  
paper clay

# Sarah

This is a pencil drawing of my good friend Sarah. It is based on a photograph that I took of her with the sun low on the horizon. The highly contrasted tonal values create a more dramatic feeling to the image and reveals her serious nature.



# Grace

In this painting I used only one colour in addition to black and white. I found the depiction of the reflection of the moon on the water challenging.



# Shayla

My art is about the gruelling suppression of emotions, and the helping hands or unwanted aid that others give.



# Jessica

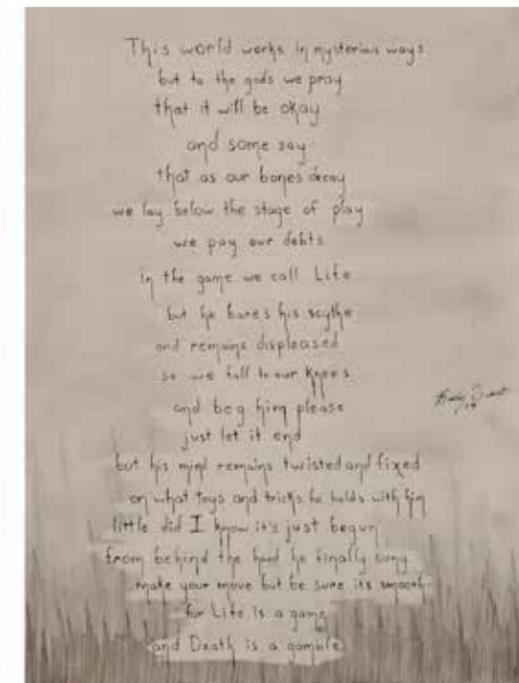
My portrait is of the Afghanistan girl whose image was first reproduced on the cover of National Geographic in 1985. Her face stood out to me, the way it has for so many others, and inspired me to set about recreating her image. Through blending, shading, and grey-scale depth and diversity, I created a range of values throughout the work. I emphasized the form of the girl by varying my greys and balancing her face in the center of the composition. There is a sense of movement and rhythm in the way the textured fabric flows and billows around, framing her face. I worked to emphasize her expressive eyes by contrasting them with the hazier grey tones of her figure. I am pleased with the way the portrait turned out, and I continue, as I hope others are, to be inspired by the haunting portrait of the mysterious Afghan girl.



*Afghan Eyes*  
graphite on paper

# Baily

For these pictures I used a regular 2HB pencil with my finger and an eraser to blend the graphite. I was going through some hard times – I wrote this poem and drew this picture of death to go along with it. My inspiration was the saying “life is a game and death is a gamble.” It just really drew my attention and got me to think a little more deeply about things.



# Hanna

This work, titled Project Blind Love, was created using pinhole photography, ink on skin, chalk and charcoal to recreate one image. I was inspired to learn how to do pinhole photography for this project because I was attracted to its simplicity and stylistic effects.

The subject matter illustrates how true love between two people is generated, not by physical attraction, but by attraction of the mind and radiance of the heart.

Paper bags worn by the models were incorporated to symbolize this concept.



# Bayli

Along with two other people in my class, I chose to do an Alice in Wonderland theme because we all love the movie! I picked the queen of hearts, as she is one of my favourite characters. I especially loved being able to show creativity with finishing touches like the jewels and sequins.



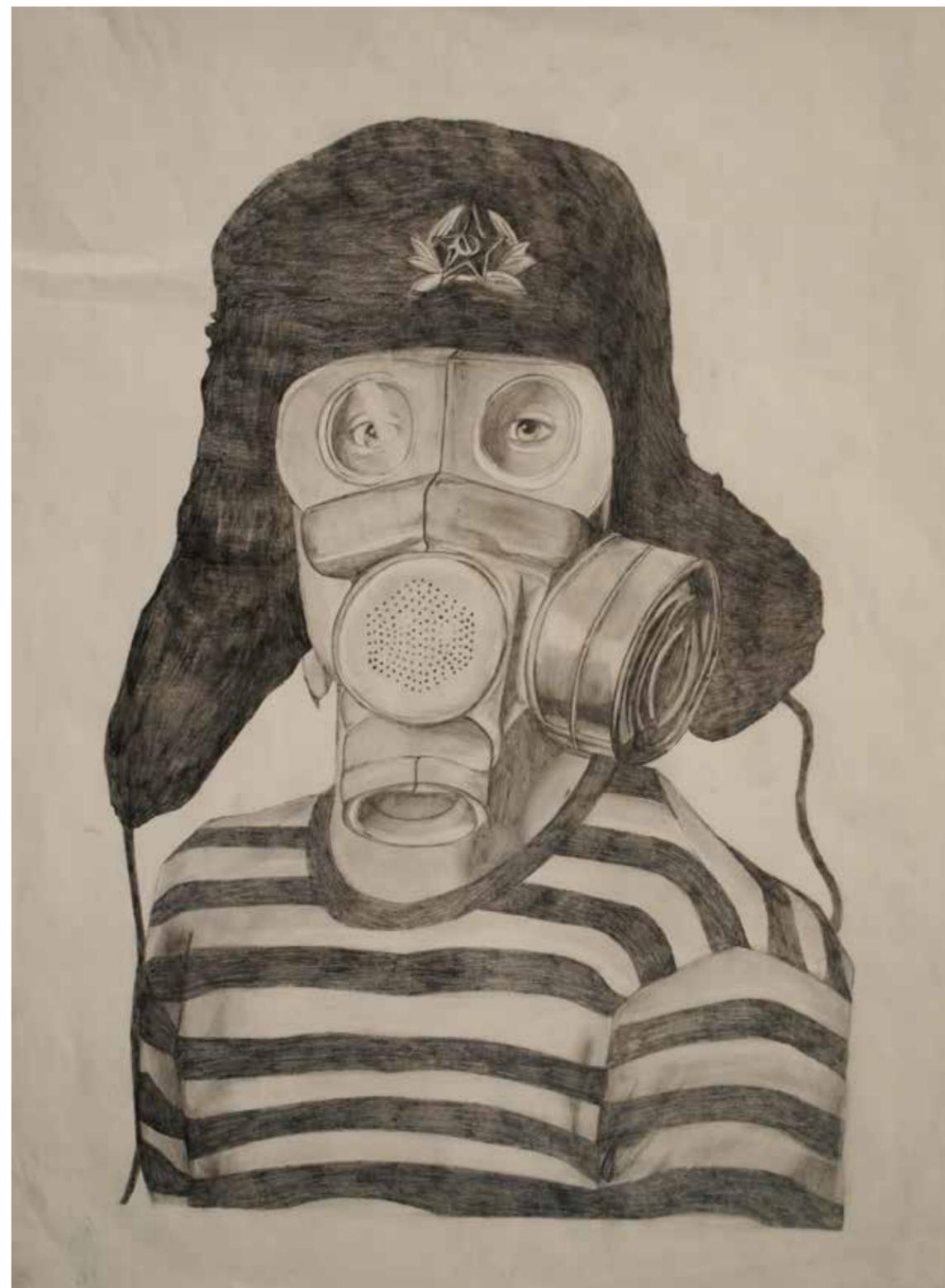
# Hannah, Maddy, Quinn

These photographs were taken for specific composition assignments, and Photoshop was used in taking away the background colours in two of the images.



# Autumn

My picture was inspired by nuclear/bio-chemical warfare, hence its title. The emblem on the person's hat and the title are both in Russian, which is something important to me, being Russian myself. The portrait itself took a little bit of time, his hat was the hardest part, as it is just a solid colour, but in the end it was really worth it. I've done lots of large portraits and this one has been my best.



*“Ядерная Война” “Nuclear War”*  
graphite



*Back to Basics* installation photo

Art in Action 2014

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March 7 to June 15, 2014



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