

THREE OF ME PAINTING

Frida Kahlo The two Fridas, 1939

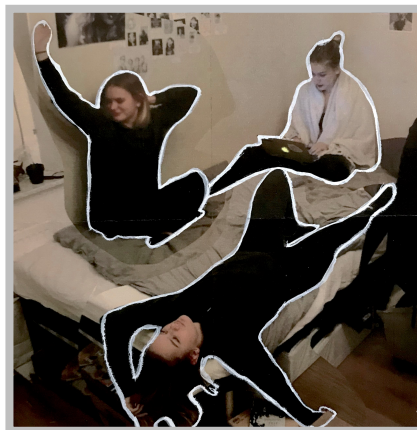
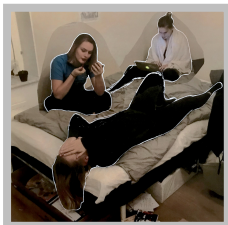
To further explore the theme of identity, I wanted to portray another side of me. I drew inspiration from Frida Kahlo's painting *The Two Fridas*. She portrays two parts of herself: one in a traditional Tehuana costume next to a modern dressed Frida. It shows two sides of her that seem to contrast each other but that are combined to form her identity. I liked the idea of showing multiple sides of an individual in one painting through the "cloning" of one person. The repetition of the same person creates a surreal and uncanny feeling and visually connects both subjects.



I brainstormed different sides to my personality that I could personify in my project. I took these photos in my bedroom, on my bed because it is my personal space and is closely connected to my identity.



I printed the images and collaged them to create a plan for my painting. I chose this collage because I preferred the composition and symbolism behind the three figures.



Happy: Symbolism to represent happiness, enjoyment, comfort and appreciation of beauty in the world. I thought plants would be a pleasant way to communicate this concept.

Sad and lost: Fading out of existence or sinking into nothingness. Making the floor seem like an endless water-like substance.

Stressed: Head is busy and feels like it will implode. I wanted to attempt to communicate this visually. One reason for stress is feeling lack of time. I planned to include a clock to refer to that feeling.

By adding these specific features to each of them, the difference between these parts of me is highlighted, strengthening my concept.



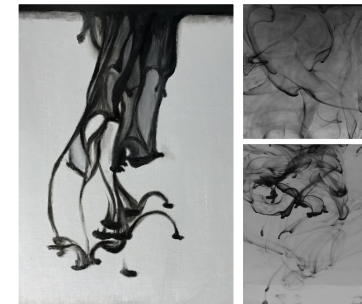
VEGETATION

For the part of me that represents positivity and feelings of comfort I thought it would be interesting to include plants due to their symbolism: Life, Growth, Nature, Survival, Beauty etc. I also have a number of plants in my room, taking care of them is a relaxing hobby that makes me happy. Plants are also quite decorative and their green colour instills a refreshing feeling.



FADE DRIPP

For the watery section surrounding the sad person, I decided to have the bed fade into the "floor". In order to create this effect, I investigated the way that ink flows through water in water. I let ink drip into a glass container filled with water and took pictures at different stages of it sinking. This creates distinct, seemingly random organic patterns which are elegant but also dark.



TIME and STRESS

The clock has no hands: Uncanny. We can both perceive that time is going faster than we would like but also slower. Sometimes when we are stressed time feels like it isn't constant. Also, not knowing what the time is is stressful. I was debating on having the time shown as late in the night but I think that one can experience stress any time of day or even all of the time.



RESOLVED WORK:

Three of me

100 x 100 cm
Oil paint on canvas

I think the final outcome is very interesting visually. Each person has its own environment that strengthen what they are representing. The fact that they are all sitting on the same bed ties them all together in a subtle yet strong manner.

