



Pearson

# **GCE A Level Advanced Art and Design**

**Textile Design  
Component 1**

**SAMPLE 3.12**

**Total Mark 18 (14+PS4)**

	<b>A01 Develop</b>	<b>A02 Explore and Select</b>	<b>A03 Record</b>	<b>A04 Realise</b>	<b>Personal Study</b>
<b>Mark</b>	3	4	4	3	4
<b>Performance Level</b>	1	2	2	1	2
	<b>Total out of 90</b>				18

#### Preservation of Flowers - Project Brief

I am studying the relationship of the preservation of flowers and how I can alter the methods of preservation, be that through the pressing of flowers, the shape or the colour of flowers. I aim to investigate this area of study because it is something that fascinates me. I like the idea of experimenting with something organic. I haven't previously looked into the preservation of flowers but I think by looking into something new like this, it will inspire me to try different methods and different art styles. I can try many art techniques that I haven't previously looked into before, such as using the dye off of the flower petals to stain materials or use varying drying methods to see if the outcome is different.

The artists I have looked into that have inspired me to go down this route are Rachel Durr and Cao Holmes, their use of including both natural and unnatural objects within their work is really interesting to look into and research. What really caught my attention is the use of Cao Holmes mixed media and how she layers pieces of her work upon each and then creates a wall hanging, not only that but Rachel Durr's use of the natural pigments in both the flowers and clay was also something that interested me as she uses this to paint on top of the tiles that she creates.

I plan to use a similar art style to Cao Holmes mixed media wall hangings, such as drawings, paintings, clay work and use of different materials, along with the possible use of either cyanotypes and inks. I aim to achieve several final pieces from this study, which will hopefully include the majority of skills that I will be experimenting with, within my sketchbook.

#### Spray Painting Silhouettes



1

#### Pieces 1, 2 and 3

I observed a lavender sprig and roses in these pieces, I experimented with tone and medium. Using spray paint to capture the shadow of the flowers. I think that these pieces are successful even if they do lack detail. I particularly like the contrast between the shadow and the background (black and white) because it doesn't obscure the focus of the pieces.

I based these pieces as a response to Rachel Durr's work, I linked my work with hers because we both focus on the same object and the use of using minimalist colour to create more of an atmospheric piece.



2



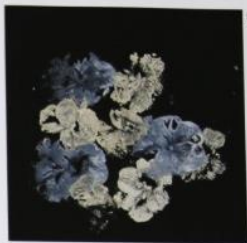
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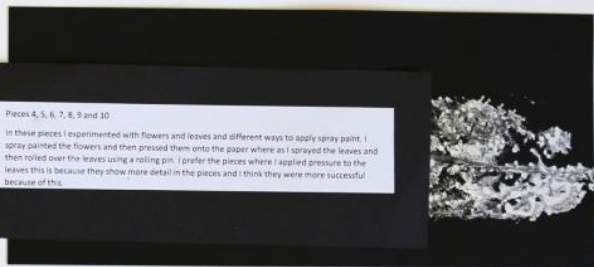
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6



7

Pieces 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10

In these pieces I experimented with flowers and leaves and different ways to apply spray paint. I spray painted the flowers and then pressed them onto the paper where as I sprayed the leaves and then rolled over the leaves using a rolling pin. I prefer the pieces where I applied pressure to the leaves this is because they show more detail in the pieces and I think they were more successful because of this.



8

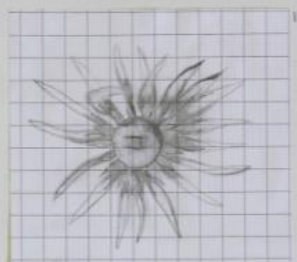


9



10





Pieces 12, 13, 14 and 15

Here I have experimented with line drawings, trying to keep the lines clear and sharp. In all of these pieces I have used biro - pen. I decided to use biro - pen because of when using a pencil the lead usually gets blunt making the lines unclear yet with a biro - pen the lines will remain clear. I did these pieces because they look as if they have a flow to them, this is because I tried to make the pen slip to the paper throughout the observation. I think these pieces were successful but next time I would like to try to include more detail to the pieces.



Pieces 21, 21 and 22

These pieces consist of using detailed pencil drawings. I observed a sunflower and a lily. I used pencil to explore how I could apply different pressures of the pencil to create tone. I haven't observed any other object in any of these pieces, keeping the focus on only the flowers. I have tried to create a 3D effect however I am not too sure it is successful. In all of these pieces my eye is always drawn to the darkest part of the piece which is usually the centre of the flower. I think these pieces look good, however they are not successful in what I was trying to achieve which was a 3D effect.



Leaf Pounding



24



A  
34





## Hapa Zome

Hapa Zome, transkeian -  
The beating up of leaves  
with flowers.

• Hapa Zome is the Japanese art  
of beating up leaves with hammers.  
• This is because by beating the  
leaves up, you are releasing the natural  
pigments, creating a dye.  
• This can be done on either  
paper or cloth.

• Hapa Zome was developed by the colour  
artist India Flint. Although she's known  
for developing Hapa Zome, many  
people including herself believe that  
people have been using this technique  
for centuries.



Pieces 24, 25, 26 and 27

With these pieces I have used flowers and leaves and 'flower pounded' them, which consists of using  
a hammer and paper or canvas to extract the natural dyes. In piece 24 I have used just leaves and I  
feel that this is my most effective piece throughout all four of the pieces, this is because the leaves  
have held their form through the 'flower' pounding piece whereas the other pieces the flowers were  
too liquid and malleable to hold their form. However what I like the most about all of these pieces is  
the colour. I would change 25, 26 and 27 this is mainly because of the flowers holding too much  
liquid and not holding their natural shapes. I would most likely change the flower because 'flower  
pounding' does consist of a bit of trial and error. Next time I will use a flower with more pigment and  
less liquid.

25



26









Painting is an intuitive process of creating space, a layering of experiences that evokes both unexpected complexity and the bareness of the moment. It is a process of being present to what comes, to new subtleties.

I am seeking that glimmer when the surface of the painting truly becomes the edge of a space. The elemental lights are exposed and I am immersed, becoming to something much more expansive.

Elise Morris.









Pieces 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34

Here I have used inkodye with my flowers, I really like these pieces. I like how in the majority of the pieces you can see the brush marks and the vibrancy of the colour is very eye catching. I personally can't find any faults with these pieces yet! I think that maybe next time I might try mixing the inkodye with different coloured dye or perhaps try painting a floral background and watering down the inkodye to see if you could perhaps see the background along with the mark making made from the flowers with the inkodye.





Inkodyes



32



33

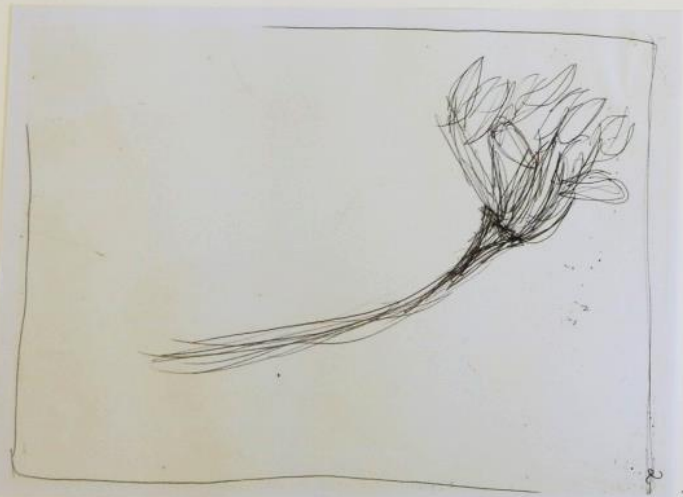
Inkodyes



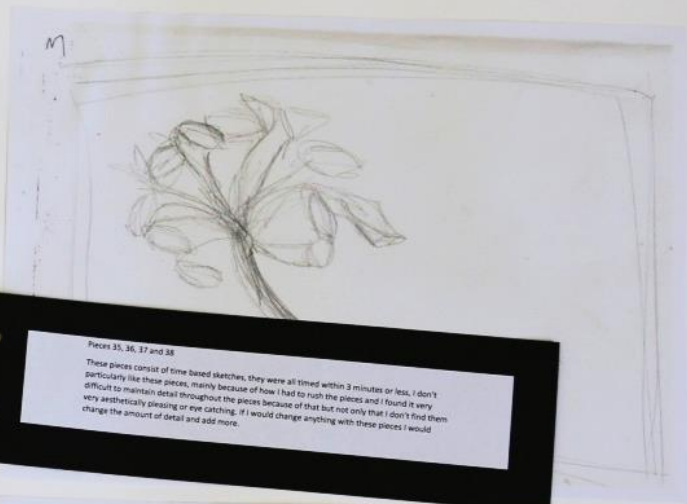
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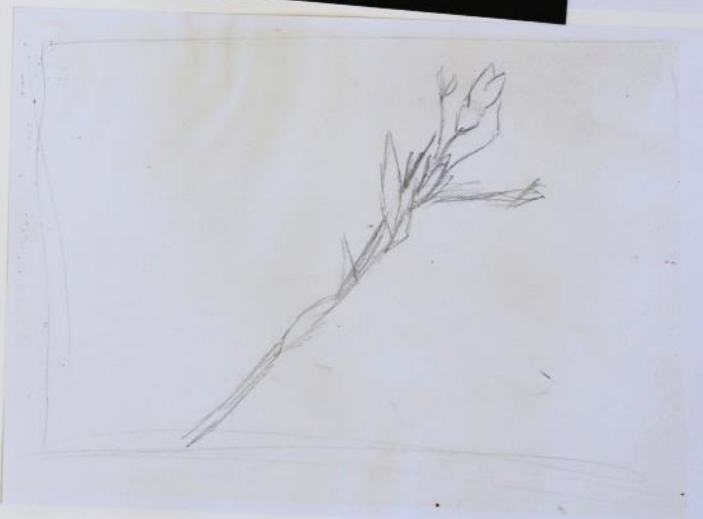
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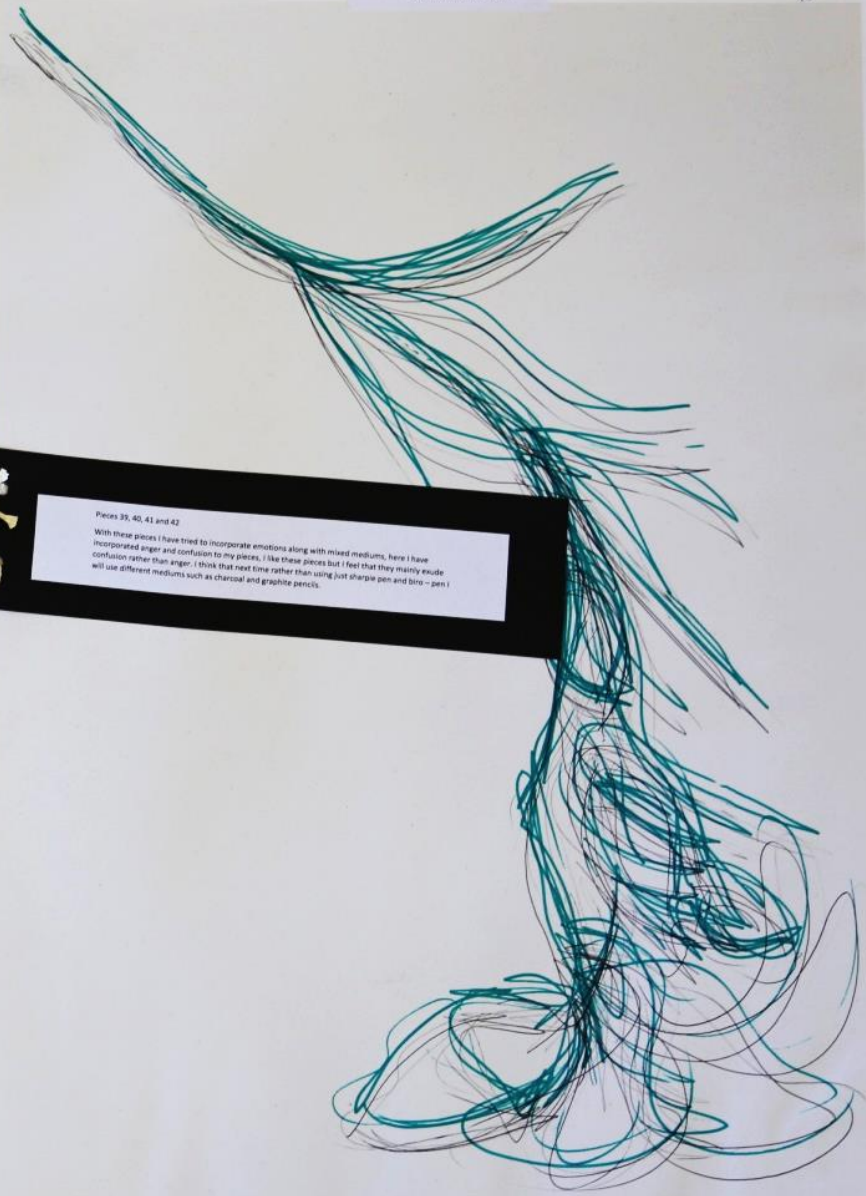
Pieces 35, 36, 37 and 38

These pieces consist of time based sketches, they were all timed within 3 minutes or less. I don't particularly like these pieces, mainly because of how I had to rush the pieces and I found it very difficult to maintain detail throughout the pieces because of that but not only that I don't find them very aesthetically pleasing or eye catching. If I would change anything with these pieces I would change the amount of detail and add more.



38

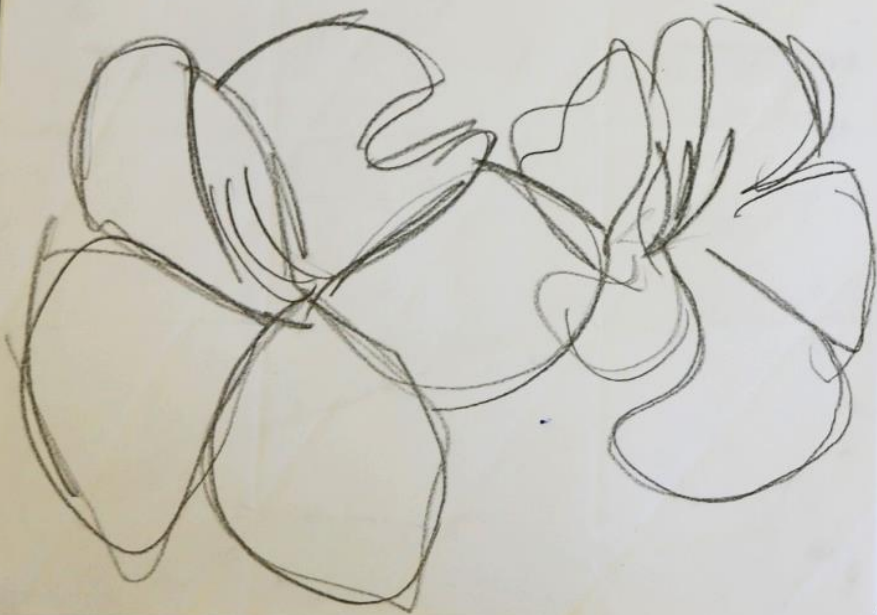




Pieces 39, 40, 41 and 42  
With these pieces I have tried to incorporate emotions along with mixed mediums, here I have incorporated anger and confusion to my pieces. I like these pieces but I feel that they mainly exude confusion rather than anger. I think that next time rather than using just sharpie pen and biro - pen I will use different mediums such as charcoal and graphite pencils.







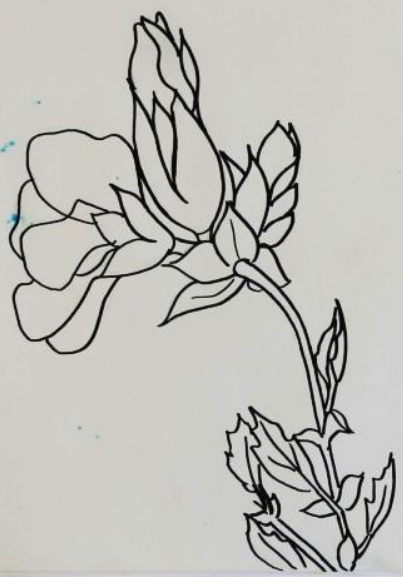
ire fury irritation  
 antagonism temper  
 hatred animosity  
 acrimony chagrin  
 annoyance rage  
 displeasure  
 passion violence

Words commonly associated with anger.

Pages 43, 44 and 45  
 I have once again tried to incorporate anger into my art work yet this time I have stayed with using just the one medium per piece. I think that the previous pieces look more affective compared to these pieces yet I use the sharpness of the angles and now I have put my subject into the centre of the paper every piece creates a focus on just the flower rather than the negative space.





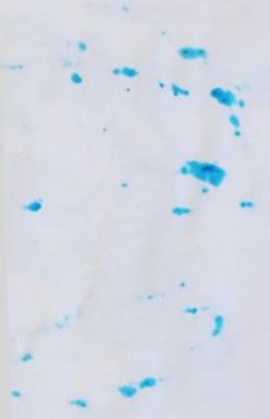


conciliation, truce, unity,  
 friendship, pacifism,  
 union, love, peace,  
 amity, neutrality, order.

Words commonly associated with peace.

46, 47 and 48

Here I am using emotion again but this time I am using peace. I am again using just the one medium on each piece, but this time I prefer these pieces to the others. This is because of the amount of detail I have managed to achieve without including tone or shade. Although in piece 47 I have used the colour black I don't feel that the piece emotes anger or confusion, this is because of the crispness of the lines and the roundness of the curves.



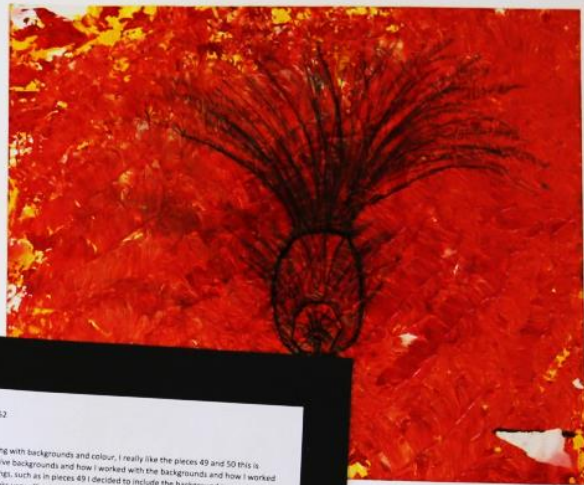




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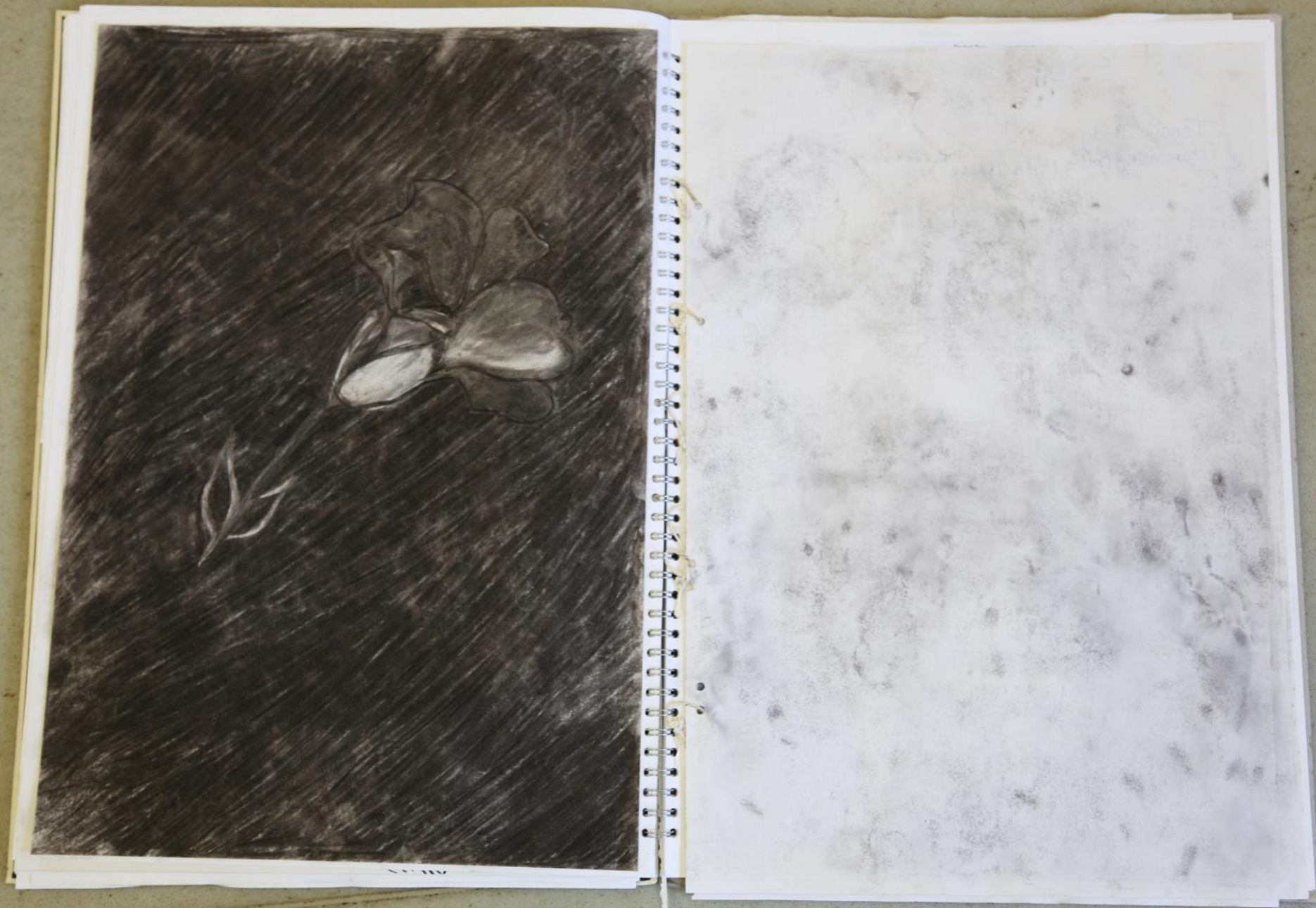
51

Pieces 49, 50, 51 and 52

Here I am experimenting with backgrounds and colour. I really like the pieces 49 and 50 this is because of the expressive backgrounds and how I worked with the backgrounds and how I worked with them in my drawings, such as in pieces 49 I decided to include the background in my drawing to show tone. I think it looks very effective and eye catching because of this. If there was anything I would change I would change piece 49 I would alter the style of the drawing, this is because it looks very messy and to me it isn't very aesthetically pleasing.



52







This example is a plaster cast piece, made from a clay mould. This particular piece features Solomon's seal and lily of the valley. The arrangement of the flowers slightly overlap one another making the eye travel all over the tile rather than focusing on just one particular object. Rachel Dein mainly creates figurative work such as this piece, she focuses on capturing flowers, weeds and herbs throughout her series of tiles and what really catches my eye is the amount of detail caught by the clay mould and how she accentuates the detail by painting the tiles varying shades of tertiary colours. Although this piece doesn't have much change in tone there are some slight changes such as the top left corner compared to the bottom third of the piece, even though there isn't much variation of tone and colour, I

think it makes the piece stand out. The tile is 40x40x0.5 cm and is in the shape of a square. The light source seems to come from the bottom of the tile, this is because there is less paint covering the bottom section of the piece, revealing the white plaster beneath the paint.

I chose this image because of the composition of the flowers and how it creates quite a natural atmosphere. Over all I think the tile conveys peacefulness, this is because of the use of pale blue. The colour usually connotes sadness but in this case I think it is conveying tranquility. The main focus seems to be the Solomon's seal at the top left third of the tile and the flower below the very last leaf of the plant. The composition is more 'N' shaped, starting at the very bottom of the Solomon's seal flowing up and back down again. In the top eighth of the piece there is a calm area which is almost completely empty. My main focal point is the leaf above the poppy flower (the Solomon's seal) towards the top right.

Dein has created this focal point by reducing the amount of the flowers in that third, but she has also used the layering of the flowers to an advantage revealing the detail of the flower and the leaf creating an unusual affect. On occasion my eye is drawn to the top left corner, where the darkest tone is used. The view point is head on with the flowers, so we are level to the flowers creating a sense of cohesion between the viewer and the tile.

The main element of the piece takes up the majority of the tile leaving space only at the very top of the tile. The tonal contrast of the piece isn't overly strong but when comparing the bottom and the top of the canvas you can see a change in tone you might not have noticed when just glancing at the piece. The colours used a very harmonious making it difficult to detect much change in contrast until you look at the piece in depth. The brush marks used a soft and the paint appears to have been applied with glazes giving the tile a richness to the depth of the piece.

Dein has used a cool palette of colours using the one colour: blue. There is no real sense of perspective as the flowers have all been laid one above another making it hard to sense a perspective. The shapes in this piece are mostly curvy and circular, giving this piece an organic feeling. This piece affects my mood by making me feel relaxed, this is because of the objects themselves. The natural subject creates a sense of calmness surrounding the piece.

Connection to my work:

I feel as if Dein's work relates well to my own work that I have been doing throughout the summer because of how she preserves the form of the flower through using clay, which is similar to how I have been preserving flowers through wax and using drying methods to keep the natural form and shape of the flower. I would like to experiment with the art method that Dein uses and possibly use different natural objects to create unique tiles similar to her.



paint started to fade.



Here parts have come away with the clay.

final product.



Here I have completed work inspired by Rachel Dein, I have used clay and plaster cast to achieve the three dimensional look. Once the plaster cast had dried I used water colour. I really like this piece; this is because of how realistic the final product looks. I like the shadowing and the darker areas of this piece, the only problematic issue with this piece is that the plaster cast seems to absorb the paint and leave lighter patches around the edges of the leaves, such as in picture 8. Overall I really like the effect.



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## William Morris - Arts & Crafts Movement

His work became popular within the Victorian era. The Victorian Era was known for its Romanticism and Idealism. Using nature as their inspiration. There were many other people also inspired by nature and used it in their own work such as authors like Percy Bysshe Shelley and Keats. Even after the arts and crafts movement, this was a time when people were moving against the industrial revolution. This is because the living/quality of life had started to deteriorate. Living people do that the cause of the growing industrial revolution.

Many creative people such as artists, designers, authors and architects (and soon) found the industrialisation of England. So the people of the arts and crafts movement decided to continue their hand work, without the help of machines to show what hand workmanship can achieve and created various crafts quilts to restore the creative environment that was present in the industrial revolution.

William Morris

- Was a leading member of the arts and crafts quilt/movement.
- Commonly known for his wall paper prints.
- Believed the industrial revolution was ruining art and crafts of his time.
- Encouraged other artists to study the medieval arts and look back in time to use their methods rather than the machinery now driving it.



Pages 54, 55 and 56:  
Here I have experimented with inkblots. I have captured these shapes by using stencils that I used for cutting shapes into card. I used these stencils to block the UV light from developing certain areas when using the light exposure unit. I find that these experiments were successful as they helped me work into different ways to create backgrounds. These pieces were inspired by William Morris and his 'twill' designs. I chose this piece to inspire the work that had been done as I liked how he used backgrounds in his work and how effective they were in creating an overall 'finished' look.







56

Pieces 57, 58 and 59

Here I have used my own pictures and drawn from them on line and cut shapes into it. I printed out several of these so I could find out the right amount of printing ink to be using. I used line so I could experiment with possible background ideas when I decide to use Cas Holmes' and William Morris' inspired work together.

I tried to keep a calm space in the print as I didn't want the piece to look too busy. As when looking at both Cas Holmes' and William Morris' work they both exude calm and peace and I feel that they achieve this by leaving certain areas quite plain or completely blank, which I like. I have also printed these line prints onto cotton, so make quite soon in my sketchbook I could start sewing onto them and use a Cas Holmes inspired look onto them.



57

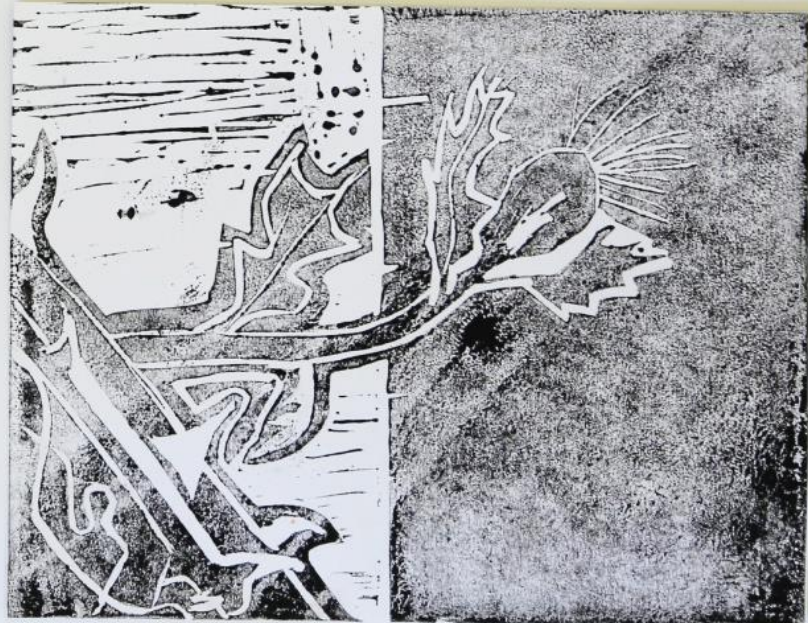


58



59









This piece by William Morris is called 'chrysanthemum', it is a wallpaper design which consists of a repeating pattern of flowers. It is a very orderly piece which is made up of three different positioned flowers. The flowers themselves have long spindly stems and wide leaves that creates a very natural atmosphere when looking at the piece. This piece was designed in 1877 and at this point in time it was the arts and crafts movement, this movement was made up of artists creating art that wasn't made by the machines and factories that were appearing in England, the arts and crafts movement was based on nature rather than industrialisation.

There seems to be a source of light aimed towards the top of the flowers, creating shadows beneath the leaves and the stems of the flowers. However this isn't indicated by colour but by lines and marks across the piece by doing this Morris has made a very soft and natural setting for his piece. I believe that the reason behind using mark makings rather than colour is because the wallpaper was made by using wooden printing blocks, and that it was a very time consuming process to complete. However when researching the size of the wallpaper there was many varying sizes, so I couldn't be sure on what size the wallpaper came in.

I chose this image because of the fluency throughout the pattern and how structured the wallpaper is, I really like that William Morris limited his colours and tones as it shows a form of simplicity, not in the design itself the actual design and amount of mark making throughout the pattern is quite complex but through the limited amount of colour creates a neutral look which is quite appealing.

I think that the focus within this piece is the white flowers, they stand out against the green earthy tones and from the yellow flowers that surround them. The composition of the wallpaper is 'Z' shaped my eye travels from one flower to another, starting from the top left white one downwards. I really like how Morris has included calm areas throughout the piece, revealing layers of the background. My focal point is the white flower towards the top left. I believe that my focal point is the top left white flower because it is quite close to being in the centre of the piece, not only that it is surrounded by natural earthy tones, such as the greens and the dark-greenish yellows and that as the flower is such a light tone compared to the earthy tones it stands out amongst the colours.

There are light and dark areas within the image which capture my eye such as the darkness of the leaves below the flowers as well as the lightness of the background, the background is unusually light in tone, considering that Morris usually works with darker tones in the background. Yet what is nice is that although the background is very light, you can still clearly distinguish what is the foreground and what is the background. I believe Morris has achieved this by having smaller objects in the background and having much larger objects in the foreground. The majority of the shapes throughout the wallpaper are quite circular and this is repeated throughout the piece.

Overall I really like 'chrysanthemum' by William Morris because of how he uses pattern work and I like the idea of experimenting with designs inspired by him. I would like to continue researching William Morris' work and hopefully figure out a way to include a similar art style in my own work.



# Cas Holmes

Chrysanthemum



"You experience the pull of the land in a very different ways, when walking on a cold winter's day to a sunny afternoon. I like to think my work serves as a reminder of this connection to nature, the land and urban spaces".  
- Cas Holmes.





60



61



62

Pieces 60, 61, 62 and 63

Here I have started to use photos and sew over them and outline certain areas with fine fiber, but I have also started drawing pieces onto canvas with Skarpe. Draw onto canvas and sewed over it with a sewing machine free hand, to outline/embroider certain areas. But I have also experimented with all three pieces in one on an A3 sheet. Although I'm not particularly keen on the A3 sheet with the mix of different experiments I found it helpful when figuring out what I would like to do once I finished my Cai Holmes inspired work. I would like to continue with mixed media but I would also like to continue with the William Morris inspired work as well, so I think I am going to figure out a way to include both art types in my own work.



63





64



65



68

## Final Piece



## Evaluation

### Sewn Flowers



## Evaluation

Many of my observations were taken from first hand studies which I observed and then usually ended up drawing and painting. I found it very useful doing it this way, I could see for myself what parts of the flower was darkest and found it easier to create three dimensional shapes in doing so, later on in my sketchbook I started taking photos and sewing and drawing on top of them which I also found useful as in a sense it was almost as if I was using a guide.

Much of the mediums that I used were varied and I ended up using quite a wide range of mediums so I could fine which medium worked best when drawing/painting the flowers. I used graded pencils, fine liners, ink, acrylic, water colour, lino cut, sewing and photography to figure out which medium worked best.

William Morris and Cas Holmes were the two main artists which influenced my work within this section and I found it very interesting when learning about their work methods and their ideologies, so I decided to include some of their methods and ideologies within my own work - from the use of neutral tones with in my final piece to the use of mainly natural mediums throughout my work.

I feel that my work has come quite far within this topic and, from starting from rough sketches of flowers to then drawing free hand on a sewing machine. I feel that I would have liked to develop more of the sewing and printing more to understand more of the concepts better, but over all there isn't much else I would like to change within my sketchbook. I chose to discard the use of actually preserving flowers and chose to preserve them within my own drawings. Because although I would have been preserving the flower it was never its original form and by doing this in a drawing I could keep its natural form as well.

I would like to think that my final piece communicates the idea of natural beauty and that the modern worlds corrupt idea of beauty being cybiceps isn't necessarily needed. I am relatively pleased with my final piece, if I had more time I would have liked to develop it more and create a larger version of this piece with perhaps more detail.



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'How William Morris and Cas Holmes express their appreciation of nature within their work'

William Morris' and Cas Holmes' ideologies of nature highly influence their work and the ever changing natural state of England, which has also predisposed their choice of mediums. Because of their strong view points on nature and how the modern world has corrupted the natural landscape I found it particularly interesting to see how they went against society norms and how they created pieces because of the undesirable affects which modern England has on nature. Throughout my own study on 'Nature and the Preservation on Flowers', I have found and used methods both natural and unnatural; I did this to see how I could affect the state of the flowers.



(William Morris – Strawberry Thief – Unknown )

I chose to look into these two artists because of how unique and distinctive their art work is, their work is also very aesthetically pleasing when looking at it and I also liked learning how they had created their own work. I enjoyed looking into how Morris created his wallpaper pieces and how he was one of the founders of the 'Arts and Crafts Movement' in 1880. Also the use of manual methods used throughout his own work to hopefully inspire others and discourage them from using easier industrial means to pieces of art work was very interesting to learn. Morris' work took a very long time to produce, much of his wallpaper designs were printed out by using wooden blocks and because of this his work was very stylised and quite easy to distinguish from another artists. Morris through the majority of his work used a repetitive style which consisted of patterns and shapes along with colours being repeated on a mass scale. By boycotting the use of industrial methods within England, Morris aimed to go down the naturalistic route and in doing so seemed to show what industrial England could possibly ruin if they continued creating such vast factories within rural England.



(Cas Holmes – Unknown - Unknown)

Nature also created a huge impact on Cas Holmes' work, she was inspired by the use of recycling found materials and creating collage style work. These pieces consist of the found materials and fabrics combined with her own photography of flowers and nature, which were then sewn to create pencil like illustrations. Although Morris' work involves of the use



of orderly repetition, Holmes' work contains the use of a disorderly form of repetition with the use of lines and the flowers that may be photographed on one side of the piece and then sewn onto the other, although not exact replicas like William Morris' there is still the recognisable use of repetition none the less. There is also the use of neutral harmonious colours throughout both of Holmes' and Morris' work; which seems to be a common denominator between the two and their own art work. There are however a lot of differences throughout both of these artist's work and that is the emotions that can be conveyed from their work: Morris' work seems to portray the image of orderliness and structure yet Holmes' work seems to communicate the image of peacefulness and the idea of being free and away from the constraints that modern England may hold people under.

Morris was one of the original founders of the 'Arts and Crafts Movement' in 1880, this was influenced by the increasing amount of factories being built within England also known as 'Industrial England'. William Morris disapproved of the changing times within England and how it was affecting nature. He was inspired to go back to more of a medieval time and was spurred to create many pieces which involved physical methods, which were very time consuming to complete. The 'Arts and Crafts Movement' involved all different forms of the arts, from painting, architecture to wall paper making and many other methods. The founders of this group encouraged artists to use natural processes when producing their work and as long as it was a natural process they did not discriminate against the use of media, materials or techniques used. Although Holmes' isn't part of an art movement, I believe it could be a possibility that she may have been influenced slightly by the 'Arts and Crafts Movement' even if it is not knowingly and this is because of how she uses natural materials within her work and uses found objects that are then re-used.

Since researching these artists and how they create their own work, I have grown to appreciate their work more than just the face value and the aesthetics of the piece. I have learnt several ways to print onto paper which involve natural and manual work to create, such as lino printing. Yet I have also learnt how to use found materials and sew onto my work free hand and create replicas of my photos. I can also see why these artists chose to work the way they do and that is that although these methods may take longer to produce they create a better final product than one that may be asymmetrical without any faults throughout. Before researching these artists work in depth I believed that the work just looked pleasing and that the use of colour was nice to look at, however since then I have learnt how they have produced this form of work through trial and error and because I also attempted to produce work in a similar style to their own work I learnt more natural techniques to preserve the image of the flower and the flower itself.

Through this investigation I have gained different viewpoints and knowledge on the methods used throughout creating art pieces, much of the manual methods I found to be more aesthetically pleasing because of their faults and differences compared to the unnatural methods which when created almost looked like carbon copies once repeated, which was not the desired affect I was looking for when creating my developments.

In the article 'Was William Morris actually just a pious bore?'. By Jonathon Jones, he questions if 'William Morris socialist vision of the life beautiful anything more than a

nostalgia for medieval craft skills?'. I personally believe that this may be the case yet I also think that it may have been more than nostalgia urging him on to create the 'Arts and Crafts Movement'. I truly believe that the 'Industrial England' was the main reasoning as to why he used medieval crafts as a way to revolt from the changing times within England in 1880. This is because of how he made many others also see the wrongs in industrialisation and how natural beauty is worth so much more than the population rise in factories.

In the review by Inspirational Magazine, the editor John Hopper reviews Cas Holmes work and critics it; I strongly agree with how he has critiqued her work and see how he has also gained an understanding of how she works; '[has] an inspirational well of harmony and balance, as well as of conflict and division' I think that within Cas Holmes work she uses the concept of natural and unnatural in a way to create something entirely new and in doing so has created a form of harmony between the two.

Over all Holmes and Morris' appreciation of nature is admirable, they both express their appreciation in different ways and although they were born in different time periods they understand the necessity that nature it and they cherish that and show others that they too can recognise the value nature has as well, even if that is by creating a form of congruence between the two worlds of natural and unnatural.

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