

AGONY

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Dry Point

In *Agony*, the use of negative space expresses how alone and empty my life feels. Although, the black filled teardrop represents my subconscious thoughts of sadness, anger, and fear. Inspired by Salvador Dali's, *The Burning Giraffe*. Salvador Dali's, *The Elephants*, inspired the use of weight within the scars on my face left from my past teardrops. The scars express the feelings I hold in, making myself have pain so others don't have to worry.

SENSITIVE

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Block Print

Sensitive is inspired by Francis Bacon's, *The Screaming Pope* and his use of lines. My piece represents a feeling of rebellious using contrast when the vertical lines try to meet the chair. The chair remains empty to represent independence. *The Man Reading* by Karl Schmidt inspired me to make a piece directed towards the school system. We sit in chairs all day and rarely have a chance to express ideas or thoughts on outside topics.

TOO MUCH OF ANYTHING IS A BAD THING

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Digital Manipulation

Alcohol, Marijuana, and LSD all open your mind to thoughts and emotions you wouldn't express while sober. Being intoxicated you can connect with your subconscious mind, learning new things about yourself. Each image shows a different reality on how these things can change what you see. Munch's *The Scream* inspired the use of colors, while pointillism inspired the use of structure. If you stay limited you can become aware of how your brain really thinks.

ALONE

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Mixed Media (Glass, Wire, and Tile)

Alone uses a wire figure dancer to represent my creativity and freedom when I'm left alone, inspired by Edgar Degas *Blue Dancers*. Inspired by the visual representation of Ann Hamilton's *Ghost A Border Act* the three glass walls express how easy it is for someone to

break down my walls and interrupt my thoughts. The tile is meant to convey a sense of security and stability within my own bedroom because it is heavy and sturdy.

DRAINED

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Digital Manipulation

Drained is a representation of the two voices in my head. Although both emotions make up who I am I perceive the sadness is the more dominant voice in my head. The sadness acknowledges the little happiness in me and tries to secure it. Pablo Picasso's Blue Period was a major inspiration to *Drained* using his theme of deep depression. Along with Picasso's 1902 *Mother and Child*, and Duccio's 1300 *Madonna and Child* using their facial expressions and subject placement.

GREY SEAL

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Grey Seal expresses my feelings towards the education system, inspired by Elton John's song Grey Seal. His song uses metaphors representing a bad education as a kid. I don't feel that students are able to express their ideas freely, instead they are either right or wrong with no in between, hence the use of only black and white. Andy Warhol's use of repetition inspired me to create a 2 by 2 grid, representing the 4 years of high school.

GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

The vertical canvases symbolize the trapped feeling I have in society. Although I have freedom I feel as though I am only going through the motions of life. At the end of the day, the government controls everything and I have very little say in what I can do in my life. The car represents my the freedom I feel which represents my friends. They help inspire my future choices and help me not feel as trapped. The position and color choices are inspired by Odilon Redon and Mark Rothko in each canvas.

PROGRESS

Artist: *Serena Medrano*

Medium: Acrylic on Canvas

Impressionism like, Edgar Degas *The Blue Dancers*, inspired me to capture a moment in time. While Derians fauvism inspired me to use multiple colors to express emotion. Over time I grew to become more content with myself. This off-guard photo of me laughing represents how joyful I am when I think of the hard work I put in to my mental state of mind to become a better me.

HOW CUM

Artist: Serena Medrano

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Female empowerment inspired by Norman Rockwell's *Rosie the Riveter* and the subject inspired by the Rolling Stones logo, *How Cum* communicates the senses during a female orgasm. Just like Pablo Picasso created a reaction to war by making *Guernica*, I reacted to the topic of the female orgasm. How come the male orgasm is not taboo, but the female orgasm is? By displaying different female's reactions during climax I wanted my audience to realize that this topic is natural to the human body.

THE LAST MEAL

Artist: Serena Medrano

Medium: Illustration

It is ironic how politics and religion are not supposed to go together, yet many people bring religion into politics. With climate change becoming a bigger problem leaders: Jair Bolsonaro, Donald Trump, Zulkifli Hanson and Vladimir Putin continue to hurt our planet, letting the unsustainable production of palm oil continue. While they all laugh and have fun in their offices the rest of us are worried our last meal will be coming sooner than expected.

I Got Fked (Over)**

Artist: Serena Medrano

Medium: Mixed Media

This piece is to empower and acknowledge sexual assault survivors that they are not alone. Stephanie Sarley's *Cream Cup* inspired the use of mixed media to symbolize the female genitalia. The use of roses were inspired by Georgia O'keeffe's *Black Iris* they were able to express innocence and beauty until they start dying to express that sexual assault isn't something to joke about because it can traumatize people.