

Artist Statement

The work I create involves the exploration of varied materials to create differing textures, predominantly in painting and sculpture, to merge my love for classical realism and the contemporary ideal of the human figure through the lens of historical sculptural influences. Visually my work uses a figurative style which reflects historical Grecian and Roman sculpture e.g. The Apollo Belvedere from Classical Antiquity and Winged Victory of Samothrace. The muted colour palette and smooth textures of polished jesmonite create a tonal landscape, acting as grounding for the expression of my complicated relationship with contemporary beauty ideals. I commonly employ drapery in my work, in both painting and sculpture. This recurrent theme enables me to emphasise the fluidity of gender in the modern setting, allowing an intertwining of soft femininity in the draping fabric and firm to contradict defined and angular masculinity of the physical materials. My work reflects clouded judgment of gender identity within the ideal beauty standard, my personal interpretation of these standards, and the extent to which they directly affect self-image. Exposure to images in Art, Literature and Social Media have conditioned us over time to associate different body types to the Ideal in order to attain social acceptance. My work is a construction of old and new influences - practicing traditional execution and aesthetic with the forever-evolving modern beauty standard and my own subconscious conditioning towards contemporary beauty ideals.