Journey Project – Final Evaluation.

My specialist practice for this project has been fine art because I noticed that in previous projects, I found myself enjoying painting or drawing more than things such as embroidery or working with fabrics, which is more of a fashion specialist practice. I have a deeper interest in fine arts and feel the most creative when creating art under this specialist practice.

I interpreted the journey project in a way that I could use colour theory and art therapy to represent different mental health journeys. I also interpreted the theme of life and death, which is commonly displayed throughout my work, combined with elements of colour theory and art therapy.

The idea of interpreting mental health and art therapy into this project was mainly inspired by my future career aspiration of becoming an art therapist. As a result of my own past mental health struggles, I have gained an interest in wanting to learn more about different illnesses.

Bill Violas work heavily influenced my work, as he creates artwork around life and death. His work inspired me to make my own artwork that holds specific meaning, in relation to a mental health journey. I was inspired to link colour theory to my work and to test how the use of different colours in my artworks could be perceived differently amongst others.

I used a range of materials and techniques that link to my specialist practice of fine art, such as; drawing, charcoal, coloured pencils, watercolour and acrylic painting, ink, collage and scratch art, dry point printing, lino cut and mono printing.

To further develop my work, I combined techniques, for example photography with charcoal rubbings.

In addition to this, I experimented with digital art and created a GIF. I used other techniques such as; hand embroidery, heat transfer printing and the darkroom. Despite these not fitting under my specialist practice, they helped me test and explore a wider range of ideas.

When creating my final piece, I noticed that on my paper two sides were of a different measurement. To resolve this issue, I measured out a certain size and cut down my piece of paper, so I was working with equal dimensions.

I considered the health and safety of myself and others when taking part in workshops, being cautious with equipment I was using. Creating my dry point printing work, I had to use a sharp object, so I ensured I didn’t drop it. In the darkroom, I made every effort to be aware of my surroundings. I have included more of my health and safety analysis in my annotations.

The library was the place of exhibition for this project. In the beginning of the project, I visited the library to visually analyse where I could potentially display my future final piece. Upon completing my final piece, I revisited this work and explained where I could and couldn’t display my work based on the scale of my piece. Additionally, I considered the health and safety risks that were attached to some of the places I wanted to exhibit my work.

Overall, I think this project was successful. I thoroughly researched my chosen theme of mental health and art therapy, whilst linking it to journey (in my specialist practice of fine art). I began to plan and create my final piece two weeks prior to the deadline. This is a personal improvement because in my previous projects I mentioned in my evaluations that I need to work on my time management skills in future projects. Focusing on my time management skills allowed me to create a final piece without feeling rushed or running out of time.

In my future projects, I would like to explore one idea to the fullest potential before moving onto the next idea. This would fulfil my ideas, not leaving one idea unexplored or unfinished.