

## Curatorial Rationale

The purpose of this exhibition was to be quasi interactive through touchable textures, placement of pieces, and earthy colors in order to anchor the viewer. The viewers are intended to hold a conversation with, not just the individual pieces, but also speak about who I am through heavy and light subjects, as to connect with the audience on an interpersonal level. They display topics that commonly reflect issues that are relevant to people my age. The works I showcased were meant to present who I am as a person by addressing positive and negative thoughts, feelings, opinions, attachments, and aspirations. This would draw personal connections with my audience by targeting topics such as family, insecurities, future goals, political opinion, needs, and self awareness. Titling it "Matters of the Heart and Mind" not only help the audience understand that the work is about myself, but it also gives freedom to connect to the art with their own experiences or opinions, instead of only limiting it to myself.

The idea of identity emerged when creating my individual pieces and comparing them side by side by what they held in common. I noticed I had a lot of natural brown colors, and vivid warm colors. I then began the exploration of these colors. I felt as though these colors were both welcoming and anchoring, as well as brash and exciting. I wanted to continue with this combination. There were elements of reality and fantasy in all my pieces, leading me to play with all the pieces individual magics. I wanted to combine the use of color, space, experience, along with meaning and metaphor all in one in order to make my exhibition be effective and meaningful.

I also explored with topics when discussing between my own experiences and the experiences of my peers. Often I would openly debate and discuss as a form of research. I realized that in some form or another we had similar experiences of living in poverty, having a hero, troubles at home like domestic violence, or troubles of identity and insecurities. But surprisingly, we were all having things like dreams and goals in the future despite the hardships. It was awe inspiring and so I decided to continue to play with the emotional heart strings of my audience by sharing striking details of my childhood and my adolescence, as well as alleviating them with lighter topics. Without this contrast, the individual pieces would become redundant and lose the audience's interest. It's the contrast of past, present, and future, along with the contrast of dark and light subjects that keep the viewer interested, and continue to move along and around my exhibition.

Over the course of the IB Art program, I discovered I had a fondness for painting and building. But it wasn't until I created "Room with a View" that I had grasp of how much I relished creating three dimensional works and spaces. I am appreciative of the journey as well as the personal growth I've made, both as an artist and a person. I am also more than satisfied of the outcome, as now I have a better understanding of how I wanted to guide my audience when walking around, and influencing their feelings. I savored creating the atmosphere for my audience, and had since then guided me into a career path of interior and architectural design.