

Student Viola V chose to focus on her childhood fear of dolls, exploring the uncomfortable and uneasy feelings she associated with this.

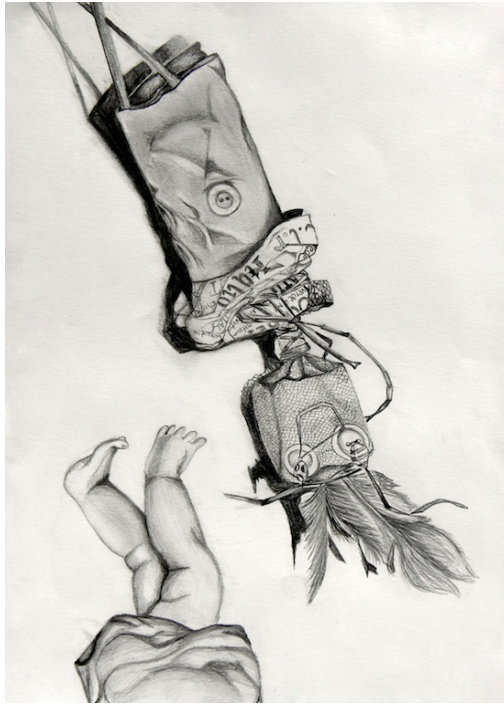


"My body of work is all connected by the theme of portraying childhood fears, channeled within the image of the dolls. I developed and explored my initial idea by researching into ancient rituals with dolls, into childhood fears of inanimate objects coming to life, into the effect on children or even adults of figures that look like, but are not, humans and then linked it all back to my own personal experiences."

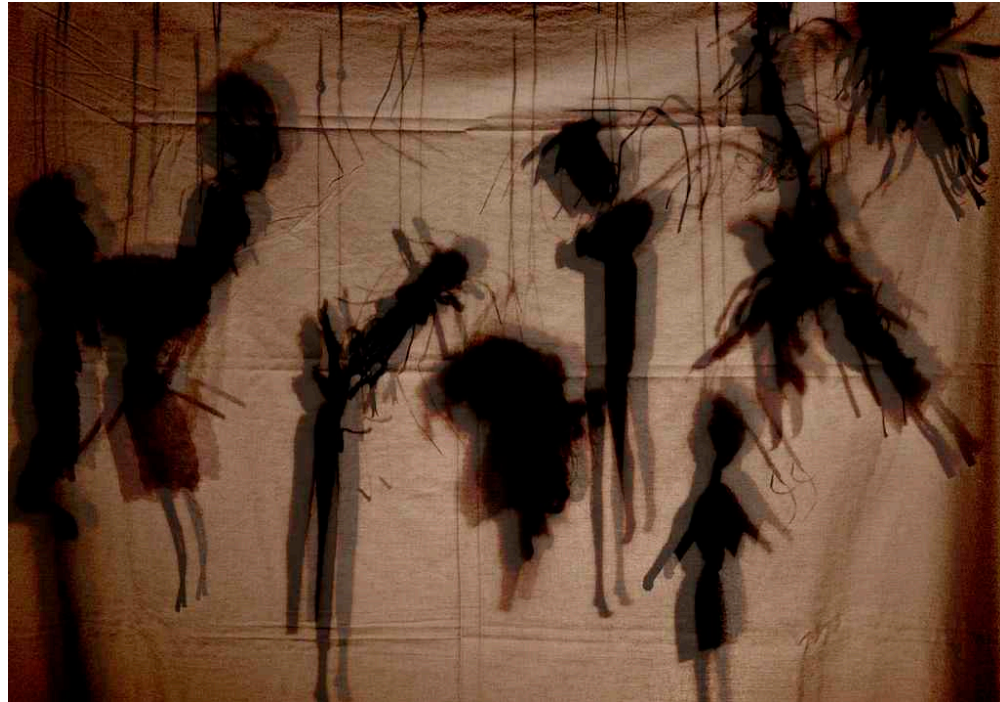
An attentive study of artists such as Louise Bourgeois, Hanna Hoch, and Mark Ryden helped her to then conceive of an installation for displaying her own work, incorporating video, sound, lighting and shadows to create a specific atmosphere to unsettle the viewer. Viola was awarded a 6 for her exhibition grade (26/30). Once again, hats off to her fine teacher Nicola Shears at St Louis School in Milan!

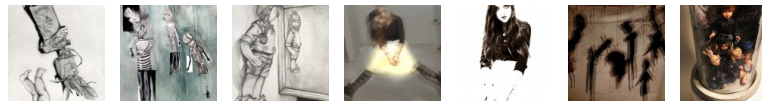
View a selection of Violas exhibition work in the slideshow below

click on the image to see larger









Viola's Curatorial Rationale

My main objective is all connected by the theme of portraying childhood fears reimagined with the image of the dolls. I developed and explored my initial ideas by researching ancient rituals with dolls, into childhood fears of

My project began, with an observational study in graphite of two dolls; at that point I had no idea of the way my work would develop.

The work of artists such as Mark Ryden and Sandy Skoglund and their distortion of what is usually considered pretty or cute, or by showing the "dark" side of doll-like imagery was of great inspiration to me. In particular, Ryden's distorted disorientation and creates a complete experience of environment in which these settings are contained.

My biggest obstacle throughout this course has been pushing myself to avoid working safely. I was afraid into taking this direction, because this meant pushing my boundaries and experimenting in something that was, appeared the so

Not only did I have to think "ugly" but I forced myself to deliberately deface or almost obliterate my normally careful drawing style and each technique such as stenciling and spray painting. Even my etcher were the manipulated and

My work will be displayed in several rooms. The room allows me to create an environment which aims to unsettle, upset, the work and together and so to be viewed as a whole. The observational drawing of the reflected doll at the

The whole concept underneath my artwork is not only in portraying the ugly and darker side of dolls, but is also to transmit childhood fears by challenging the viewer's perception of "reality".