

## *Observing*

### **Lulu Stodart-Goodman**

My body of work explores the intricacies of the human condition and the human mind through four different artworks. These focus on the depths of the subconscious and inner workings of our minds. My artworks highlight hidden emotions, desires of humans and how our existence is shaped over time. Each artwork includes the same subject in different contexts, from my own personal photos.

In my artwork, titled "Observing" I continue this representation of the subconscious mind by portraying the challenges individuals face when accepting and acknowledging their own emotions. The blue ink choice was influenced by my research and analysis of the American artist, Raymond Pettibon who has actively engaged with the medium to create expressive and bold artworks. I incorporated some of his own stylistic choices such as ink cross-hatching, a technique which I regularly use in my own work. The blue ink is complemented by the background, which is composed of orange hatching in mixed media, creating a more dynamic piece. In this artwork, the three same figures are featured, extending from the themes of my other artwork "Subterranean Endeavours". The central figure is actively expressing their emotions but is being scrutinised by her internal emotional states. The left figure is judging her, while the one on the right shows sympathy and concern, two contrastingly different perceptions. The individual herself is left to wonder whether her own reactions are valid, due to varying opinions of her own mind.

"Observing" shares the same triptych format depicting the internal monologue like "Subterranean Endeavours", however they differ as this piece highlights varying self-perception and one's own insecurities. This artwork is a visual representation of how individuals experience strong emotions, and how they perceive themselves in this state. My body of work consistently includes the same subject throughout. Producing my artworks, I had the opportunity to use one of my own personal connections who is an actress. With her help I was able to create dynamic and expressive pieces through her own skill and experience as an actress, creating meticulous poses.