



Visual Arts

Exhibition HL

RATIONALE

Since I began this process and went through the two DP years, I explored protest art. I wanted to use my art as a way to represent Venezuela to everyone that I presented my art to. In essence, a depiction of my relationship with Venezuela. Venezuela has been going through a political situation and there are many issues which is shown in my art that I like to portray in my work. Inspired by artists who believe that art has a purpose. Like Käthe Kollwitz used to say her art was to voice the pain of her people. "It is my duty to voice the suffering of men..." Her work has been strongly inspirational to me; the way she uses space and how black and white has such a strong impact in the message that is being portrayed. Her ideas were of inspiration to me as well, as she voiced suffering for a war, I used her work as inspiration as seen in *Exodus* inspired by *The March*. I tried different techniques when developing my work, the media in which the art is presented can influence different ideas and emotions given through the piece. For example, when I used Hockney as inspiration where he says a landscape never gets boring. "it's not the landscape that is boring but the depiction of it that becomes boring" which is why I was inspired to create a piece to depict the beauty of the country, a piece very vibrant and colorful. I used different artists to guide me to explore the ideas I was trying to convey and the purpose of the work they created as a base of inspiration, the techniques I used are meant to give stronger significance to the work, for example, *Stamping for Freedom*, based on the Russian constructivism or propaganda, which they used in order to go against the norms of society, fitting for a piece focused on the opposition to the government.

Rationale

In my work it is easy to depict the themes of patriotism, home and melancholy having a juxtaposition of the feelings showing the suffering and the love about my relationship with my country as well as exploring politics due to the situation of the country. The colors of the flag are seen in many of the pieces and there is a sense of emotion that can be perceived through the style and ideas in some pieces. The themes of which I based my work grew as I started to create my pieces, the theme which initially only had an air of melancholy and home. The work took a more political aspect as the two years passed and I started to feel more comfortable with the work I made as I gained more insight in the theme I was exploring and having better knowledge. On the medias I used and which worked better for me. Most of the inspiration for the pieces were issues that were relevant at the moment of the making. This has created an image in which hope and pessimism are juxtaposed within the body of work.

I am exhibiting my work in a way in which I expose a story. starting off, I present with an overview of my country, portraying the beauty of it, to then address the political situation, showing the darkness that has developed over time, whilst still demonstrating my relationship with Venezuela throughout. I have tried to have a balance with the sizes of the pieces as well and create the pieces fit the space with asymmetry in order to have focus in each of the pieces.

Because of the current pandemic, and the required social distancing, I will not be able to exhibit my work to an audience, yet I believe I would have been able to have the audience relate to the idea that my work portrays. I live in Qatar where majority of the residents are from foreign countries, this gives me an advantage as it is easier for them to empathize with my work. Moreover, the story told by the pieces would allow them to create a stronger relationship with the body of work and sympathize with it.

Word count: 695

EXHIBITION PHOTOGRAPH



EXHIBITION PHOTOGRAPH



PIECE 1

Name of piece: from afar

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 37 x 30"

Brief Outline of intentions:

This piece was what guided the rest of my theme, guiding me towards expressing my distance from my country, what we see and the unclarity of it while we are away. The melancholy that we feel for our homes when we leave them.





PIECE 2

Name of piece: Reminisce

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 20 x 25"

Brief Outline of intentions: My childhood, my cousin and I in Venezuela, the beginning of my journey and experiences that show my relationship with my country.

PIECE 3

Name of piece: Dreadful News

Medium: charcoal, ink, paper on canvas

Size: 37 x 30”

Brief Outline of intentions:

This picture depicts the situation in Venezuela, showing the current news at the time it was created and issues that affect us and on it a portrait of me, my cousin and Nicolas Maduro, the president of Venezuela. Showing what he's done. The girl in the middle doesn't smile showing the suffering that comes with being there. Inspired by Käthe Kollwitz and her anti-war posters as well as her use of charcoals *The Survivors* (1923)



PIECE 4

Name of piece: Stamping for Freedom

Medium: ink, Lino printing on paper

Size: 14 x 14"

Brief Outline of intentions:

The piece represents a moment which brought hope to Venezuelans', April 30th which was the day part of the military joined the opposition against the government. The piece is inspired by Russian constructivism by the style of it and the purpose to create a difference.



PIECE 5

Name of piece: Camino Viejo
Medium: Gouache on Paper
Size: 16 x 8.5"

Brief Outline of intentions:

Showing the beauty of Venezuela was also key to my work. It was inspired by the way David Hockney presents his work, his colorful pieces with details and vibrant colors

Hockney, The Garden (year)



PIECE 6



Name of piece: Exodus

Medium: Pencil on paper

Size: 15 x 26"

Brief Outline of intentions:

The piece represents millions that have had to leave the country because of the political situation of the country. The piece is inspired by Käthe Kollwitz, *The March* (1897)

PIECE 7

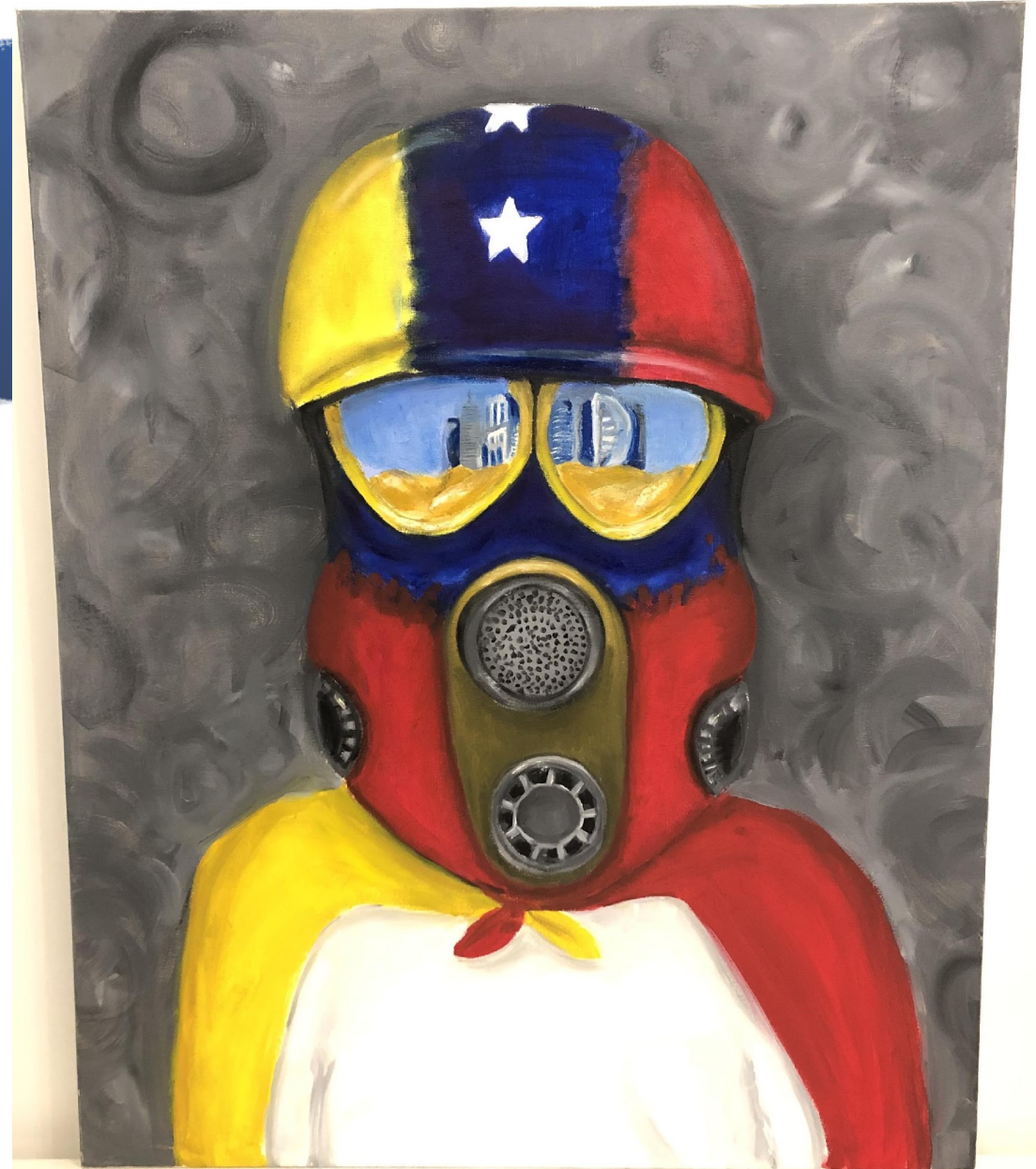
Name of piece: Unknown Soldier

Medium: oil on canvas

Size: 37 x 30"

Brief Outline of intentions:

This piece is a gas mask, someone standing and fighting for their country because of their situation. In its eyes the city of Doha, where I live now. Where the soldier represents a part of every Venezuelan who had to leave the country and wants to fight for it.



PIECE 8

Name of piece: Extranjero

Medium: plaster, oil paint.

Size:

Brief Outline of intentions:

The piece intends to portray the impact that it has on myself and others, leaving my home, taking part of who I am. The sculpture is inspired by the famous artist Bruno Catalano who shows the same idea with pieces he has all over the world with travelling men and missing sections.

