

Year 12

Visual Art



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Tayah Hoekwater Empathy With Others



Sheldon College student Tayah Hoekwater explores the idea of hidden identities and secret personalities in her work. Tayah used digital artistry as a means to express and expose the way we empathise with others. The piece is intended to highlight the way in which, when we let our guard down, the similarities and connections between people can be found.

As stated by Henry Thoreau, the concept of empathy relies on making deeper connections with one another.

Tayah has taken photos of 27 people and found images of flowers these have been digitally manipulated and then layered in Photoshop to create a double exposure. The images are then displayed in conjunction with alternating blue and red lights which enhance different images on the paper.

The models in the photos are expressionless, requiring the viewer to make a judgement of the models to fully empathise with them. Flowers are included to hint at the hidden aspects of that model's image and personality.

The body of work also features a powerpoint display, with each of the expressionless people, overlaid with an expression of emotion.

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