

Professional Practice Statement

My practice focuses on the desire and need to explore the world of Abstraction and Expression as a means to communicate and express my feelings, ideas and emotions. Art is a form of therapy. It allows you to release and interpret ideas through visual interpretation and production of work. The factors concerning this lies on the interference of the ego. The ego is a complex character of the human existence. The child however does not understand these complex qualities through the early stages of their lives and childhood. The child is free, creative and un-restricted to explore and experiment, have fun and be a free soul. However my childhood was taken away through the stages of being diagnosed and treated for Leukaemia (cancer of the blood).

Art for me was a form of therapy. It allowed me to be free and interpret my experience through visual drawings and art forms that I have only realised at this point were expressing that emotional and psychological pain that I went through during my illness. Children see art as a way of expressing. The need for a child to express and explore their artistic creativity and interpretation of ideas is absolutely fundamental in order to understand their self-existence and knowledge of the world they live in. Art is everywhere, creativity is in everyone. But it needs to be communicated and expressed through various forms such as literature, music, sport, art etc.

Art in schools through my experience in secondary school focused on Art as a 'talent' or 'skill' required subject. This has to be understood that associating art with these terms decreases the confidence and child's creativity to explore and pursue confident career ambitions. Given the opportunity to change children's attitudes towards art and its unlimited approaches to experimenting and developing will allow the child to learn and be free at the same time? After all children are the most creative individuals. Their limited knowledge allows a greater chance for unique ideas and strategic processes to expressing to be conveyed.

Hopefully through my practice and their minds, both elements can be integrated to create art that questions and answers both myself (the artist) and the child (pupil) ideas and attitudes towards the fusion of art and practice, mind and soul, mental and physical, media and surface etc.