Cheryl LEE, *Flower of Eyes* 2022

*Flower Of Eyes* explores a society experience of the fear of being stared at, through a three-dimensional form of biomorphic shapes. It can be called Scopophobia, it is the excessive fear of being stared at, and it is often associated with other society anxieties. Reflecting a personal and social experience of mental health, the concept of this work is embodied in the contrast between personal space and disconnection towards society. The flowers represent the cycle of creation, depicting how all life comes from one singular source.

When the flower’s stem is cut, its life source is interrupted, and it stops growing. This ironically beautiful bouquet of flowers, juxtaposed with endlessly staring eyes, represents the hindering of growth as my anxious fears grow bigger, to the point where it feels like even inanimate objects are watching me. When people pick flowers, they usually pick the pretty one, but would people choose a flower with eyes?

I was mainly inspired by Australia environment. Where my parents plant flower behind our garden, sometimes there will seed growing from the grass, and flower that was destroyed because of its imperfection, it inspired me to create “Flower of Eyes”.