

ARTIST STATEMENT

Jamie Young

'I WOULD LEAVE ME IF I COULD'

Drawings illustrated by led pencil and felt tip pen, watercolour and acrylic paint on paper

'I Would Leave Me If I Could' explores how body language can display an individual's current emotional status and mental well-being. My body of work focuses on the human body and how body language can showcase emotion, specifically negative emotions. In my piece mental illnesses such as depression, anxiety, anorexia and other life-altering disorders are the centre focus. By appropriating Austrian Expressionist painter 'Egon Schiele' and German painter 'Ernst Ludwig Kirchner's' expressionist art styles I was able to depict and showcase individuals all combating some form of emotional trauma in an expressionist exaggerative form. My work utilises symbolism through the use of colour and line. The background of the figures are all a certain colour or a mix of colours that represent a certain emotion such as anger, worry and confusion. The brush strokes and style of lines utilised when illustrating also showcase a sense of anxiety, pressure and intensity. Throughout my seven works, I utilise Egon Schiele's style of art. His work inspired my art pieces heavily, with aspects being integrated into all seven of my works. Schiele's exaggerated art style and expressionist painting method intrigued me when I first researched his work. His works contain themes of expression via body languages, such as sadness, joy, romance and pleasure. His raw and confronting art pieces captivated my interest and his expressionist art style is now integrated into my work.

My art-making practice has been influenced by the study and interpretation of Egon Schiele and Ernst Ludwig Kirchner