

Purpose

Hannah Walter

2022, 2'x2'x5', steel and fabric

Purpose is an expression of my creative and feminine identity through textile that synthesises with steel. In my new exploration of welding and methods of art making traditionally associated with male-dominated trades, I learn that I can still include a gentle and careful intensity that I relate to as a woman and as a sort of quiet person that reflects on the world more often than I leave my mark on it. The meditative and nurturing acts of micro-detail work and small decisions involved in the application of the fabric to the steel, from tailoring, adhering, and refining raw edges, lends to the effect of the floral fabric forming a tight skin around the surface. With this effect, the sculpture transcends material and viewers become curious about the process and the physical feel of the sculpture. This material ambiguity resonates with me, as I often find myself walking a line between certain binaries like feminine and masculine practices, and utility and the decorative, especially as a young artist investing myself in a career that often defies the conventional.

Hannah is in her third year of a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, where she explores sculpture, painting, and printmaking in her work. She is inspired by the Alberta landscape and the ordinary, beautiful moments of daily life. Her loved ones also inspire her and her work to live fully and fearlessly each day. More of her work can be found on Hannah's Instagram @hwalter.art.







The Exquisite Joy of Life in the Cave

Anna Marie Chemi

2022, 11" x 8.5" x 1.5", mixed media (Merit Students Encyclopedia volume 11 book and pages within, cigar case, coke label, key, playing card, cardboard, moss, trees, fishing wire, battery powered lights, ribbon, paint, craft apple, crafts stars, Twin Peaks postcard).

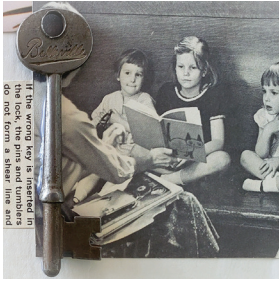
In Plato's allegory of the cave, men are chained inside and can only see the visions portrayed on the wall in front of them which they believe to be real, but are only projections made by the men behind them who are moving forms in front of a fire...but the men know nothing else, and they believe these visions to be the truth. The realm of the world outside of the cave represents intellect, knowledge and the light of the sun, the intelligible realm in which the truth of the world can be known. There is also an additional component that is discussed at the end of the allegory that the enlightened person who is able to see the good has a responsibility to share their learning with others, to "descend again" into the cave.

I call my book transformation The Exquisite Joy of Life in the Cave building upon Plato's allegory with concepts of epistemology (how we know what we know), metaphysics (dealing with ideas of being, identity, time and space) and existentialism (related to the meaning, purpose and value of human existence) to return into the cave not to impart knowledge but to dwell in the fantastic visions which hold different discoveries of truth, a different dimension of reality. To any who think the world is not our own construction, the Queen of Hearts emerges and says "Off with their heads!" Enter the cave where the time is always now and allow the alchemy of secrets, mysteries and fantasy to bring you on a fantastical voyage. Allow non-sense to turn the key to free you from your invisible prisons of: left, right, left, right, left...left..., go straight, sit straight, fix your face, drive a Lincoln, speak-when-you're-spoken-to life of no questions. Plant the flowers in your mind, enter the cave and enjoy the exquisite joy of fantasy and secrets. The scenes you see are not the only destinations you will visit, where you go will be up to you.

Anna Marie Chemi is a mature student who previously obtained a bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Political Science and has returned to pursue an after-degree in Social Studies and Art. She always finds ways to incorporate adventure and creativity for her as well as for her two boys, Khalil and Layth, and strives to connect her purpose to the larger universe.



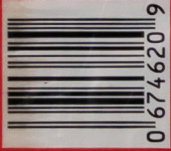
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Photos by Anna Marie Chemi and Ashley Lau

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Anna

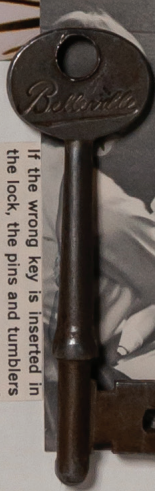


★ JOKER



★ JOKER

If the wrong key is inserted in the lock, the pins and tumblers do not form a shear line and the plug cannot turn.



Science World X Recycle: Children's Playground Proposal

Peilin Wu

2022, 594*841 mm, Poster,
3D modeling

Work Cited

"About Science World." Science World, 20 Mar. 2023, <https://www.scienceworld.ca/about/>.

Liu, Jun, et al. "Microplastic Pollution in China, an Invisible Threat Exacerbated by Food Delivery Services." *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination & Toxicology*, vol. 107, no. 4, Oct. 2021, pp. 778–85. EBSCOhost, <https://doi-org.login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/10.1007/s00128-020-03018-1>.

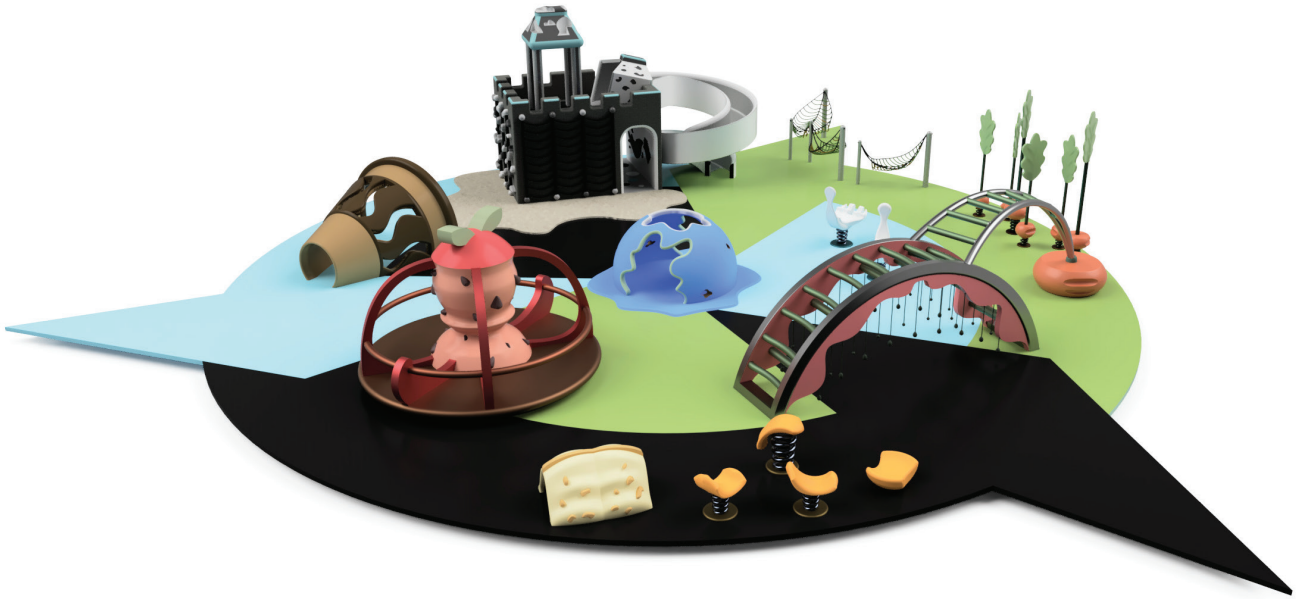
Walker, Tony R, et al. "Single-Use Plastic Packaging in the Canadian Food Industry: Consumer Behavior and Perceptions." *Humanities & Social Sciences Communications*, vol. 8, no. 1, Mar. 2021, pp. 1–11. EBSCOhost, <https://doi-org.login.ezproxy.library.ualberta.ca/10.1057/s41599-021-00747-4>.

With environmental issues and sustainability being important topics of current society, recycling takes a large part. From research, many people are not educated on how to properly manage waste, as well as lack awareness of the environmental impacts caused by waste generation (Walker et al. 7; Liu et al. 781). There is a great amount of garbage produced in parks, playgrounds, and public spaces. The garbage would be a potential risk for pollution in our lands and severe harm to wild animals. As children play in outdoor areas, it is also important for them to learn about recycling their snacks, drinks, or other waste items.

The playground has the theme of recycling, and the field has colour codes to indicate different types of garbage. The blue represents Recyclables, green as Organics, and black as Landfills. The playground objects will build into the shapes of daily garbage such as a plastic fork, a plastic spoon, watermelon rinds, a bag of chips, an apple core, and more. These will be placed on the corresponding-coloured field.

Children could have fun playing with the enlarged objects and interacting with them as well as playing with transitions to different colours. The goal is to enhance knowledge of how to recycle, and recycling bins with the same colour code will be placed beside the playground to encourage correct choices of bins. The melting earth in the center puts the focus on our planet is going through tough conditions, also as a representation of global warming. The goal of this project is to possibly raise awareness of environmental crises for children, parents, and others. To improve the environment of the public park and areas around, giving children a more clean and healthy space to play.

The location chosen for this playground proposal is at The Creekside Park beside the Science World in the City of Vancouver in British Columbia. As the Science world focuses on children exploring and interacting with science, they also focus on environmental topics such as saving water and reducing the rate of wasting water. The age group would be focused on five to twelve-year-old school-age children or older since the playground has more sections of climbing and tall slides. Children could face physical and mental challenges as they also thought about recycling and developing balance and coordination. Learning while playing also fits in the overall concept of Science World (About Science World).





TELUS WORLD OF SCIENCE



A MIRROR MAZE



Fulfillment

Nicole Wrishko

2023, 16x20", acrylic paint on cradled masonite

Work Cited

Mitchell, Heather, and Gwen Hunnicutt. "Challenging Accepted Scripts of Sexual "Normality": Asexual Narratives of Non-normative Identity and Experience." *Sexuality & Culture*, vol. 23, no. 2, 2018, pp. 507-54.

I explore my inner, asexual identity that exists under heteronormative agendas by primarily using acrylic paint. Despite sexuality being a spectrum, asexual individuals have been disregarded and lack representation in society due to being viewed as falling outside of a normative and "ideal" lifestyle. This is proven to be true in discussion with a study written by Heather Mitchell and Gwen Hunnicutt where self-identified asexual individuals expressed being made to feel psychologically abnormal by others (Mitchell 507). My work depicts a coexistence of seeking romantic interactions while lacking sexual desire.

Spaces that sit between reality and imagined are represented in my work, emphasizing the difficult experience of finding footing in the allonormative world. Utilizing thick paint, I render forms by meshing cartoon and realism to enforce the spectrum of desires. Emotional depth and movement is illustrated through these stylistic choices alongside significant colour usage. The purples used within my almost monotone palette creates unity through its inspiration of the asexual flag. These techniques of physical paint and colour stress the importance that colour has in my representation of identity and the figure.

In both literal and metaphorical ways, I use the figure to represent my internal dialogue regarding the struggles of existing in modern society. The purple being broken up into red and blue on and around the figure visually emphasizes the complexity of sexuality. An intimate atmosphere is created through shifts of saturation to filter the viewer into different parts of my brain. The vulnerable experience within the work allows for a deep relationship between viewer and art. Overall, this painting presents my inner struggle with finding fulfillment through meshing cartoon with realism to juxtapose serious and humorous tones, using colour and texture to express emotional depth, and using the figure to reflect my intimate exploration of the self.



Nicole Wrishko (any pronouns) is an emerging artist in their fourth year of the Bachelor of Fine Arts program at the University of Alberta. Their practice involves addressing the emotional state on both a personal and expansive level in relation to identity and place. Through painting, printmaking, and visual communication design, Nicole challenges the modern-day norms within society by highlighting both the dismissal of asexual representation and the emotional impact of income inequality. Nicole uses the figure to explore the socio-political world and connect to their own experiences on an internal and external scale. With the combined artistic styles of realism and cartoon, Nicole juxtaposes serious and humorous tones as a means of exploring emotional responses. Nicole has received the Jana Lamacova Memorial Award (2021-2022) and had their work displayed at the University of Alberta during their undergraduate degree (2022).