

# Portfolio Draft

Tanaya Agarwal



### Refuge

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Size: 72x48

This is about home - the place that holds every memory you create. The safety and comfort of your own home is irreplaceable and inexplicable. The hidden garden covered with leaves enhances the sense of safety while it's contrasted by the chaotic yet joyful garden hidden under it. The garden is a combination of the past - my grandmother's childhood home and present - my childhood home. The size of the canvas was intentional- I wanted the leaves to invite the viewer into this space and be surrounded by these memories.



Bloodlines

Medium: Embroidery on cloth

Size: 39.4x25

This artwork is about my family, my heritage which is the origin of everything. This is the story of three generations of women who devoted their life to pursue their dream, their passion – art. The artwork shows the generational influence on my life through my grandmother, my mother and I. It includes one aspect of the form of art we chose. The medium – embroidery pays tribute to my grandmother and the skills she taught me; the rhinestone honors my mother's diamond jewelry business and the illustrative aspect of the artwork explores my passion.



**Sequel of the bullets**

Medium: Acrylic paint on acrylic glass and clay

Size: 43x32

The installation is about the lack of self-expression along with the repercussions of the labels society puts on us that shatters a part of our identity. The different labels have unique yet common consequences as shown by the colors on the glass that turns into a black and white shadow. These shadows reflect the reverberating lines and patterns that are a result of these labels. The bullets are a metaphor for someone being shot down by the negativity of the word they are labeled with and the pain faced by them having to conform to the norms of the category they are placed under. I have used various glass panes hanging at different lengths to create contrast.



### Dream Journals

Medium: Print media bound in faux leather

Size: 8.3x5.7

Dream Journals are fun, vibrant and interactive planners filled with 200 pages of hand illustrated designs where each month is personalized with various themes. These planners have multiple trackers - mood trackers, budget trackers and spreads - weekly spreads, monthly spreads that make it easier to use. This was my lockdown work, designing, printing and selling these, a project that inspired my entrepreneurial side.



Slides from Juhu

Medium: Charcoal on paper

Size: 16.5x11.7

My childhood locality that I still call home - Juhu- has had an irreplaceable impact on my life. It soon became a part of my identity and I captured the essential moments over time. These memories stayed with me, similar to an old photo album. The black and white charcoal causes a sense of nostalgia and rawness from the past while the cubes display various moments framed in my mind. I revisited these spots and captured them in live drawing sessions.



Pot!

Medium: Clay and glaze

Size: 5x5

Pot! is a multifunctional product - a brush holder, water cup and palette. It is a mix of form and function. As an artist I was always looking for the perfect palette but they would often disrupt the aesthetic of my workspace. Pot! blends into your environment seamlessly. It can also be used for other recreational activities that require discretion.

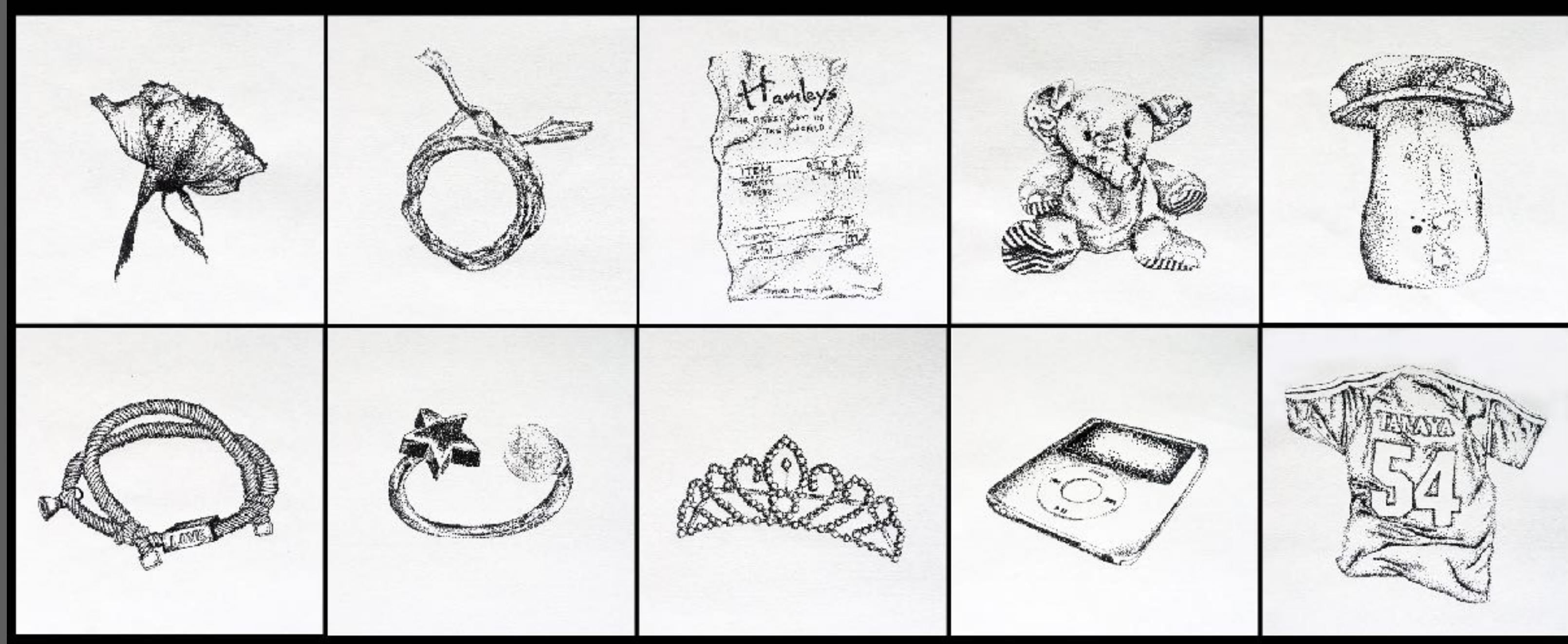


Eat up!

Medium: Acrylic paint on wood

Size: 3x3

This piece is about the interplay of food and health. The food pyramid has been reconstructed in our minds over time and our priority changed from health to societal expectations. This is often ingrained in children while they grow up; the blocks and bright colors are used to play to their youth and learning process. The reconstructed pyramid replaces the recommended nutrition with food items that are commonly consumed when an eating disorder is triggered.



Vehicles of memory

Medium: Ink on paper

Size: 8.3x5.7

Capturing the fleeting moments of life is impossible due to the passing of time. The small reminders we have of these memories is all we can keep with as we move on to create new ones. This artwork displays the objects I chose to collect over the years; my memories almost in a memory box - fleeting moments. The use of stippling conveys the idea that a thousand moments form one memory, like a thousand dots form one artwork.

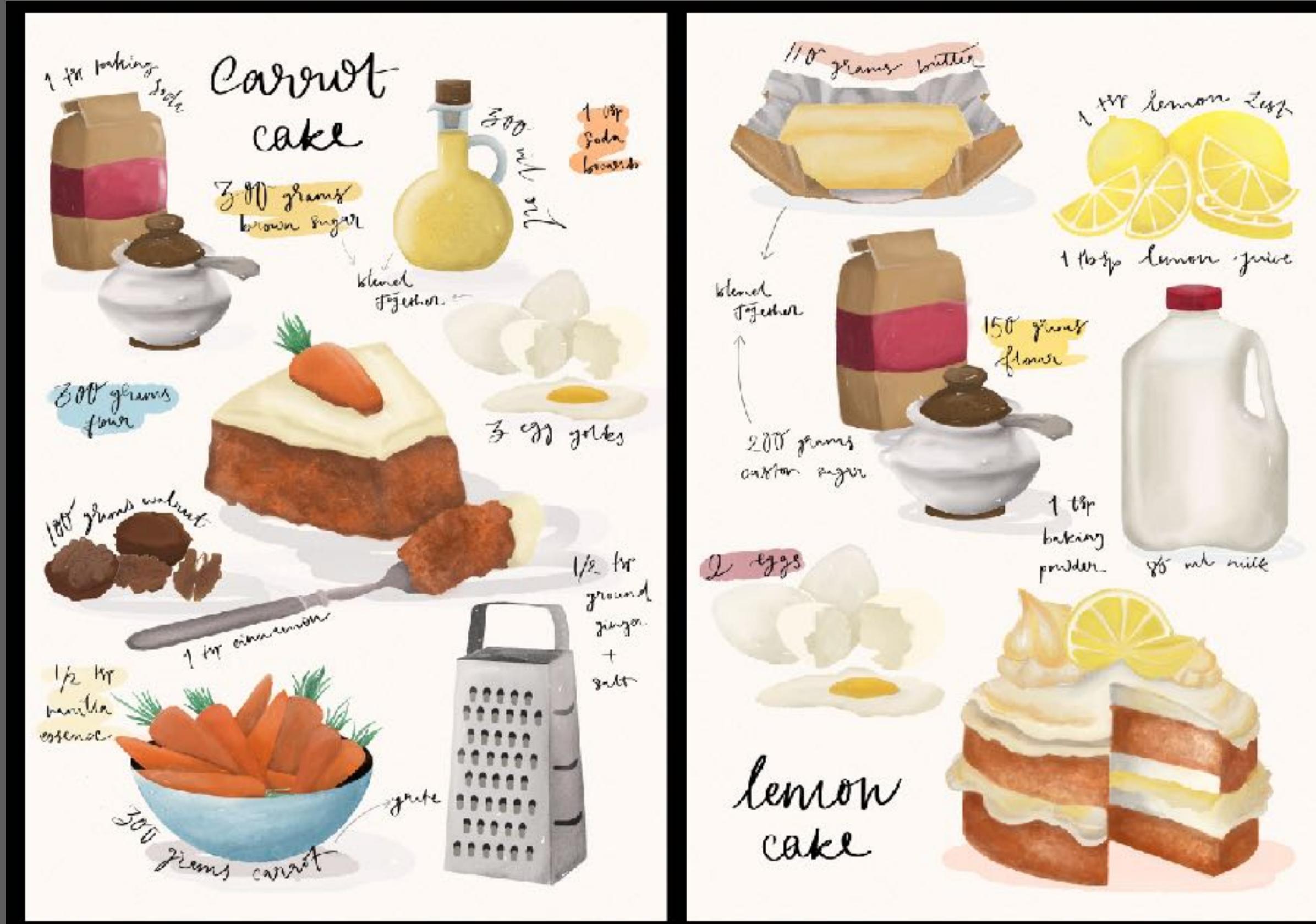


Pooh-tery

Medium: Clay and glaze

Size: Various sizes, 3.5x2.5, 5x4

Inspired by a classic childhood story - Winnie the Pooh, I created a pottery collection. It is a combination of jars, mugs and bowls that are inspired by different elements of the story that's set in the English countryside - a honey pot, Piglet, the tree barks and Eeyore.



Comfort food

Medium: Digital

Size: 11.7x8.3

As baking transformed from a hobby to a business during the lockdown I realized the importance of fun, colorful elements around me to keep me inspired. The illustrative recipes are a unique way to display a simple recipe that I frequently referred to. I'm hoping to compile these into a comfort food recipe book where each page works as a detachable poster as well. Digital illustrations have become an interest over this past year.

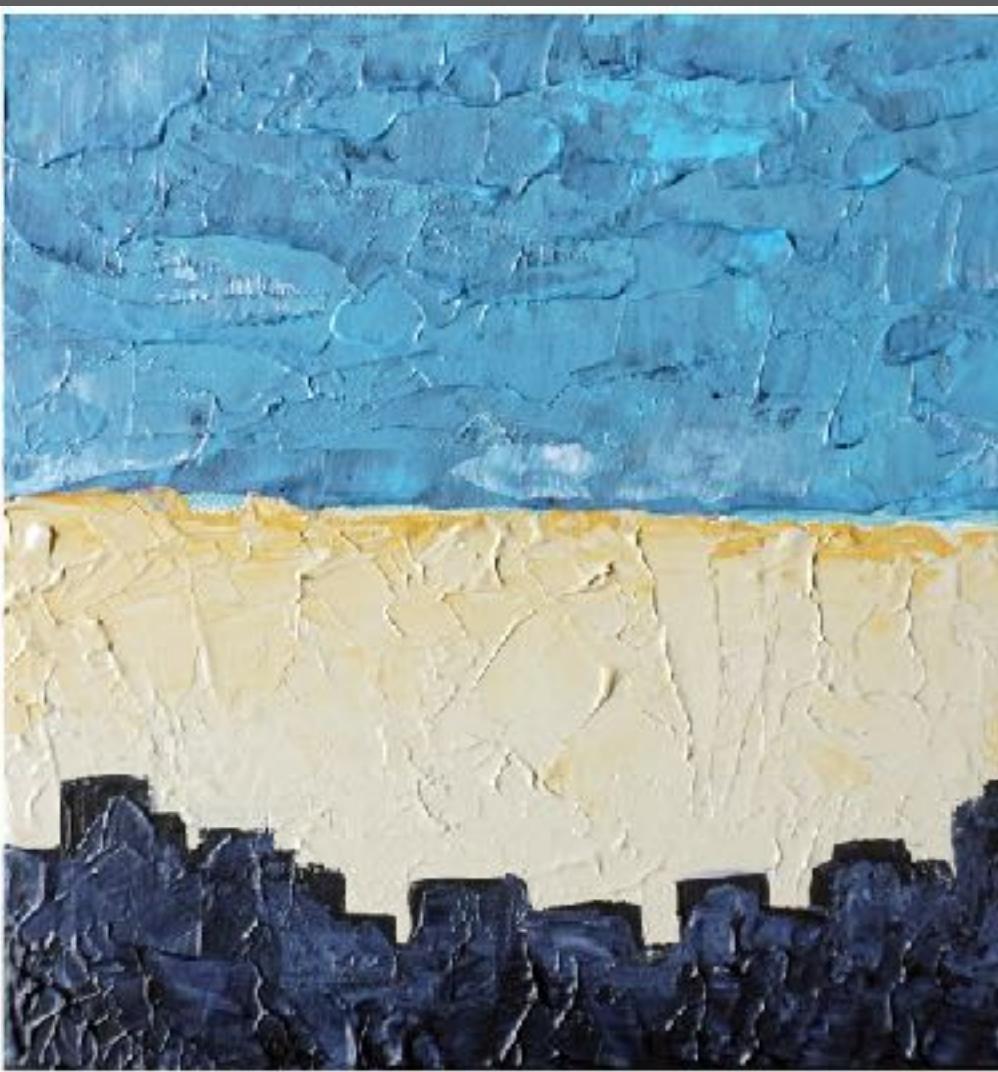


FabricaTIAn

Medium: Fabric

Size: 72x19

Using textiles from aspects of my life, I have braided, knotted, hung them together. Every memory, experience or event in my life is literally tied together to form a non- representational version of me that keeps extending. The colors are links to my previous artworks which tell stories of my identity. The wire and knots are symbols for events where my life took a turn. My story has been one filled with neat braids and bumps alike.

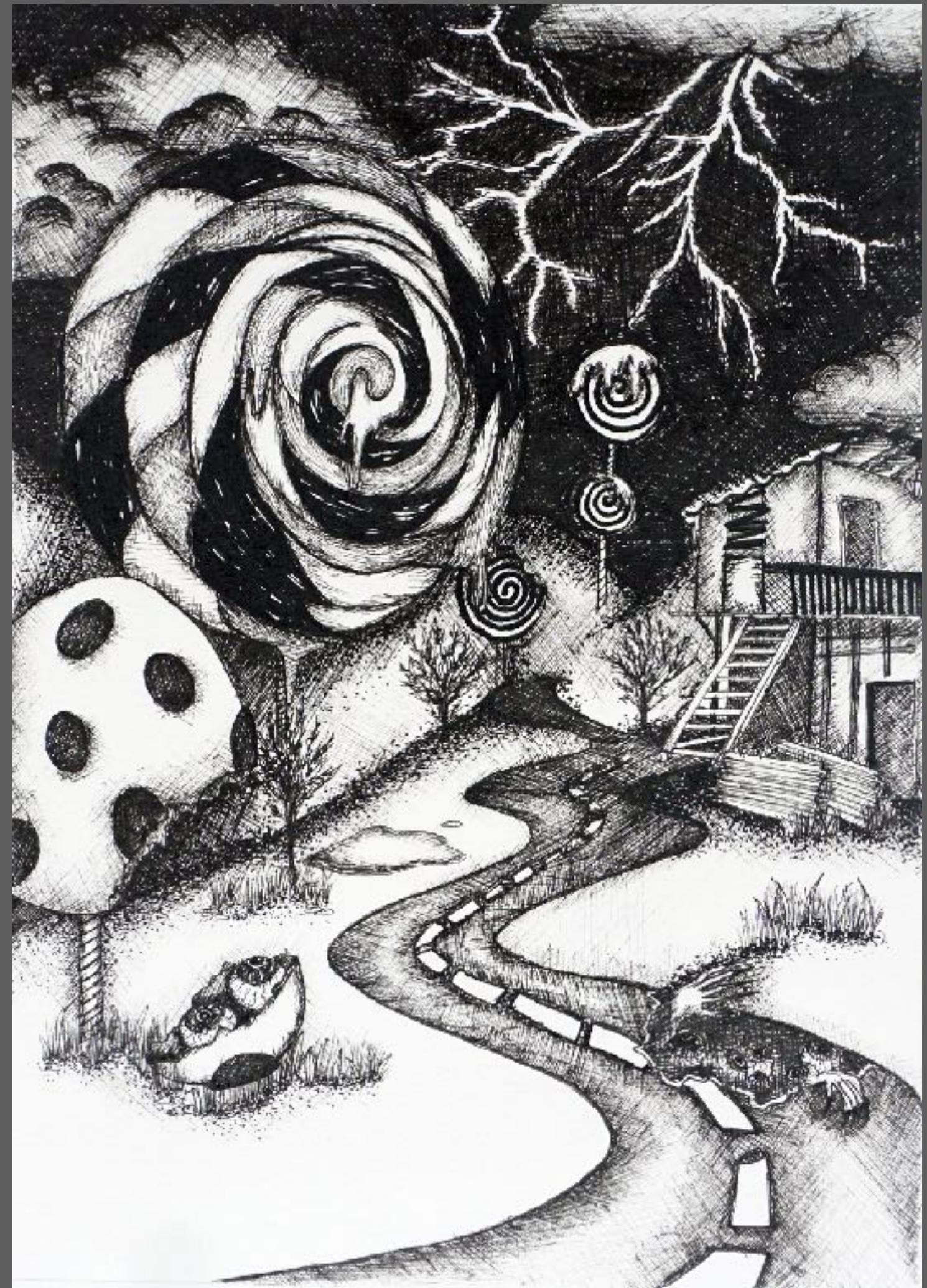


Escape to the edge

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Size: 8x8

The series of paintings is about how nostalgia, longing and sentimentality drive you back to the past - your safe place. For me, it's always been the beaches I've visited. This series, inspired by the works of Hema Upadhyay, looks at shapes and textures seen from a bird's eye view. It illustrates the longing to parachute into a place that comforts you as soon as you look at it, whether it's Mumbai, Abu Dhabi or Koh Samui.



The upside down

Medium: Ink on paper

Size: 8.3x5.7

This artwork is inspired by my favorite childhood board game - Candyland. As we grow up the things we like in our childhood get tainted by the negative events we go through and the softer, vulnerable aspect is hidden under a tough layer. This is my version of Candyland which expresses how the events of my life hid my vulnerable personality under a protective layer. The use of ink and hatching show a graphic contrast: the seen versus the unseen.



Airing out your dirty laundry

Medium: Cyanotype on cloth

Size: Clothes, size Medium various lengths

My relationship with food has been an emotional one. This work involved working with food, touching it and spending time with it in a healthier method. Using cyanotype allowed me to explore a new medium, and the process of printmaking gave me the opportunity to use food directly and have hands-on experience. The cyanotype was used on garments to convey the idea of people owning their issues. The society I grew up in often forced me into hiding my issues and not openly talking about them. The hand-stitched labels on the clothes are inspired by fashion labels; they unveil words and phrases that are commonly said to people who are battling issues with food. These clothes were displayed on a clothing rack and photographed in a way to capture the rawness and sensitivity of the topic.

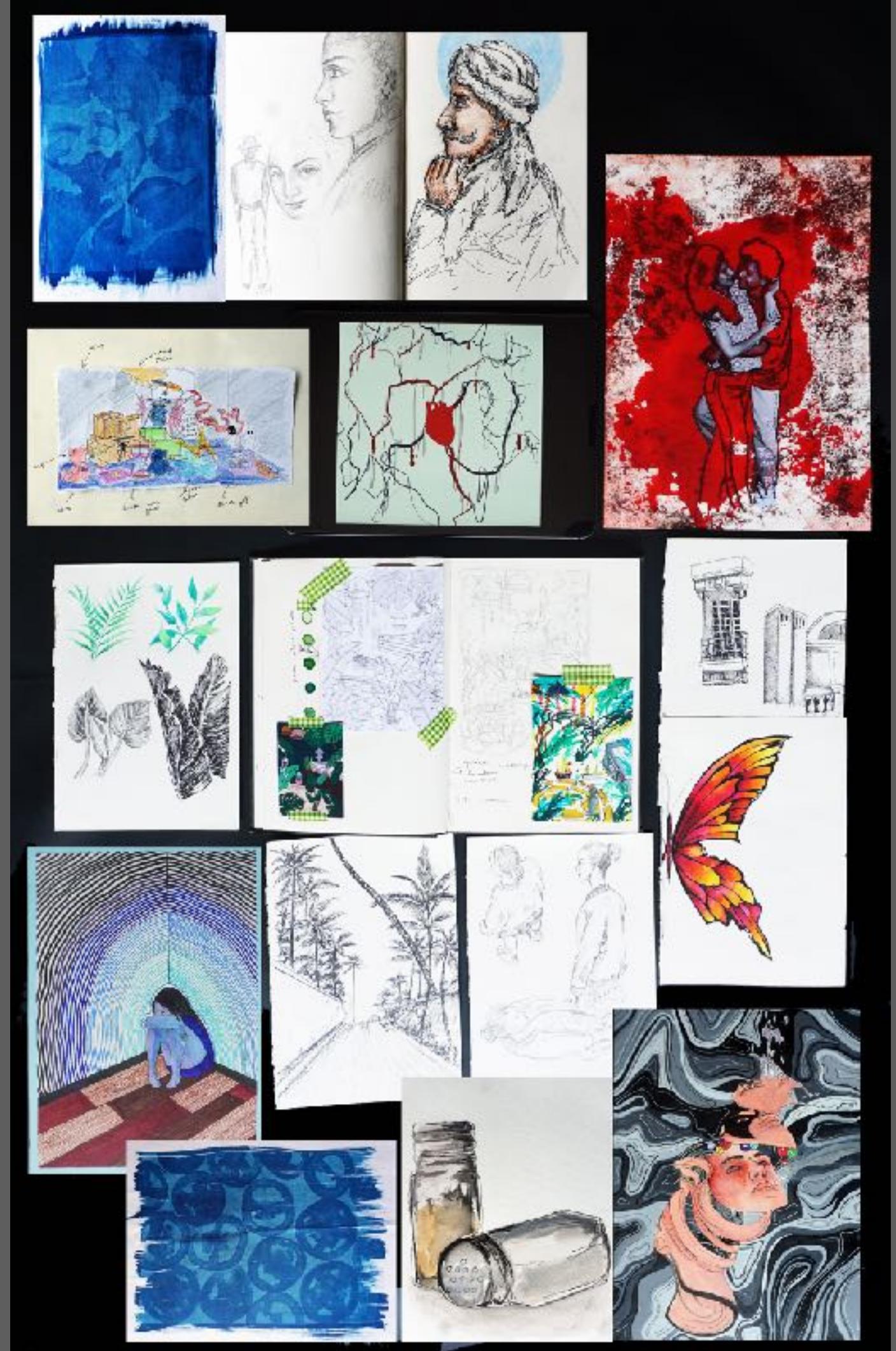


Boulevard of broken tattoos

Medium: Acrylic paint on canvas

Size: 24x48

The accumulation of ideas, plans and dreams is never expressed. Tattoos are a form of self expression for me, they develop as my identity develops and the ideas I have are ignited by a burning passion to visually express my emotions. Things pile up in our heads and collect; the painting is a visual representation of all the tattoos that piled up in my head. I've used bold colors that leave a lasting impression.



Sketchbook

Medium: Various

Size: Various sizes

The sketchbook has been part of my art making process for as long as I can remember. It helps me brainstorm, test and create new artworks, mediums and concepts. This is a selection of pages from my ideation process.