

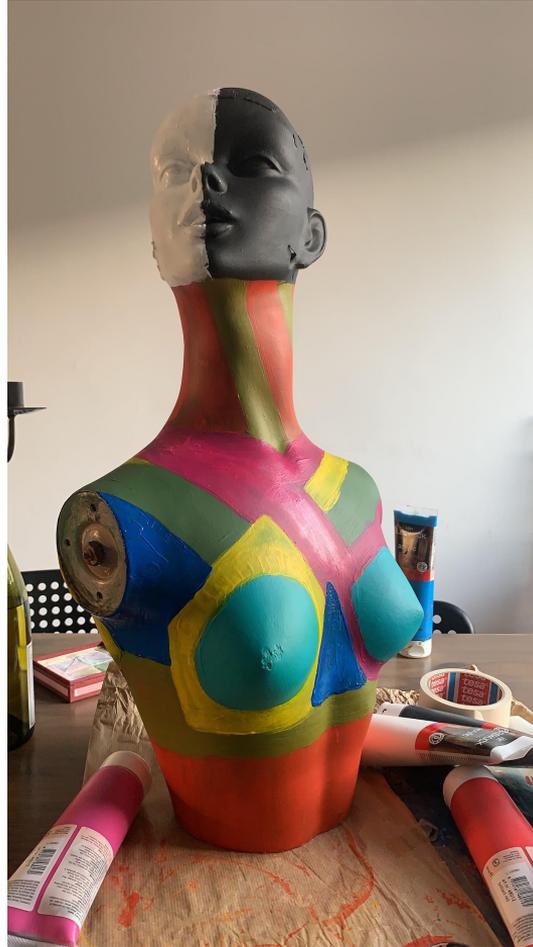
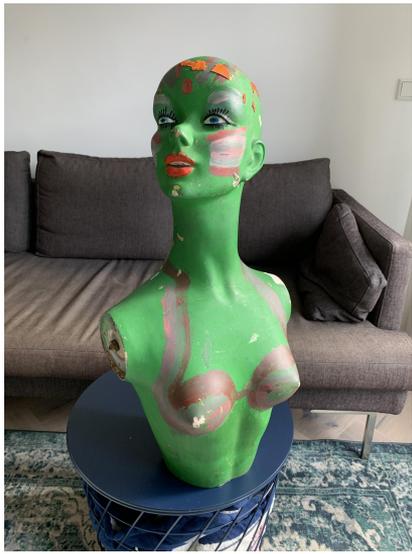
Home Assignments 3 & 10

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Application reference: 23352

Assignment 3



Taking
Beatriz
everywhere.



This is Beatriz. She was found in the rubbish one night and has been accompanying me ever since. Beatriz being found in the rubbish can represent her previous surroundings, but she can also be much more than that.

Step 1. A makeover.

1st Degree: Beatriz.

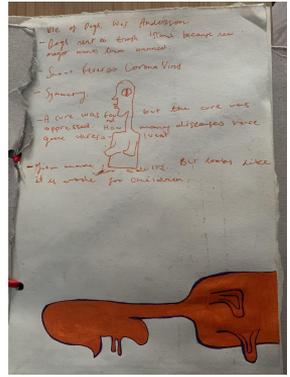
One of the degrees I want to connect Beatriz with is the film by Wes Anderson, *Isle of Dogs*. A Stop Motion animation film where dogs have become illegal in the made up city of Megasaki, Japan. Dogs are sent to Trash Island where they must fend for themselves. A young boy by the name of Atari risked everything to go find his long lost pet, *Spots*. Amongst the rubbish he befriends a pack of stray dogs who help him along his journey. The supposed leader of the pack, Chief is a stray. There is a similar feeling between Beatriz and Chief. They are both “trash” foresay, but so much more can be made from them.



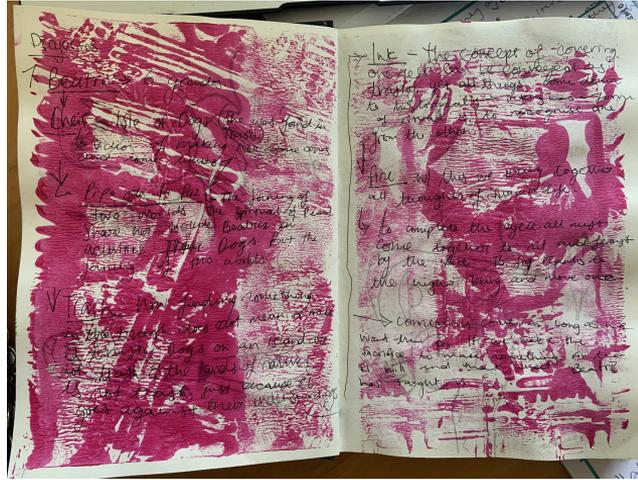
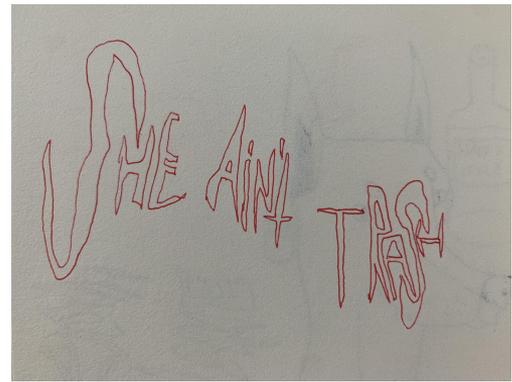
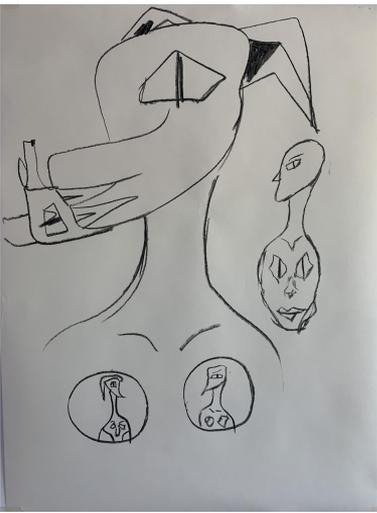
Aspects of Chief can be applied to Beatriz. I will now explore how to unify them.



Here, I give Beatriz a tattoo of Chief. Also, I present Beatriz to my pet rat, Nora. Rats appear frequently throughout the film and have a connotation of trash and dirt, similar to Chief and Beatriz before their resque.



2nd Degree: Chief, the dog.



Here I write down step by step how I interpreted (at given time) the degrees in which Beatriz will be connected. I found this exercise good in clearing out my thoughts and perception for the continuum of the project.

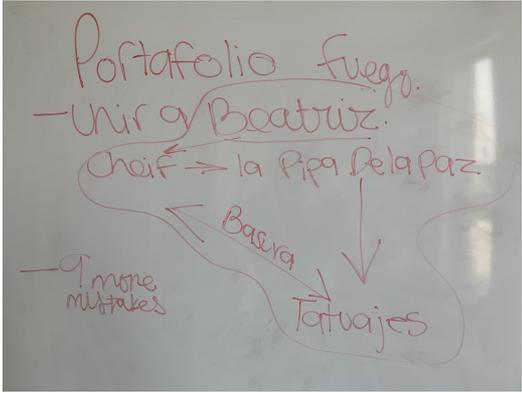
Here are some drawings trying to connect Beatriz to Chief. Materials used: chalk, charcoal and oil pastels.

I have now, directed my vision of how Beatriz will be connected. I

have chosen:

- **Beatriz**
- **Chief**
- **Trash**
- **La Pipa de la Paz**
- **Ink**
- **Fire**

Here I share a mind map of how I think of connecting the degrees.



Degree 3: Trash

Both Beatriz and Chief are perceived as trash to the outside world. (Spoiler alert!) Chief and Beatriz both are rescued from their circumstances surrounded by trash. For this I wanted to take Beatriz back to the dumpster that she was taken from. There is a scene in Isle of Dogs where Chief gets a makeover, later he eventually reaches Megasaki and finds a home, same goes for Beatriz. She has “glowed up”. During this effort to find Beatriz’s old dumpster, we did not make it. During our walk and ritual it just did not feel right to take Beatriz back there, it would not be cathartic for her, or her new stage. However, I did photograph her on rubbish found around the Rotterdam streets. Here I will share photographs and sketches from our adventure amongst the trash.









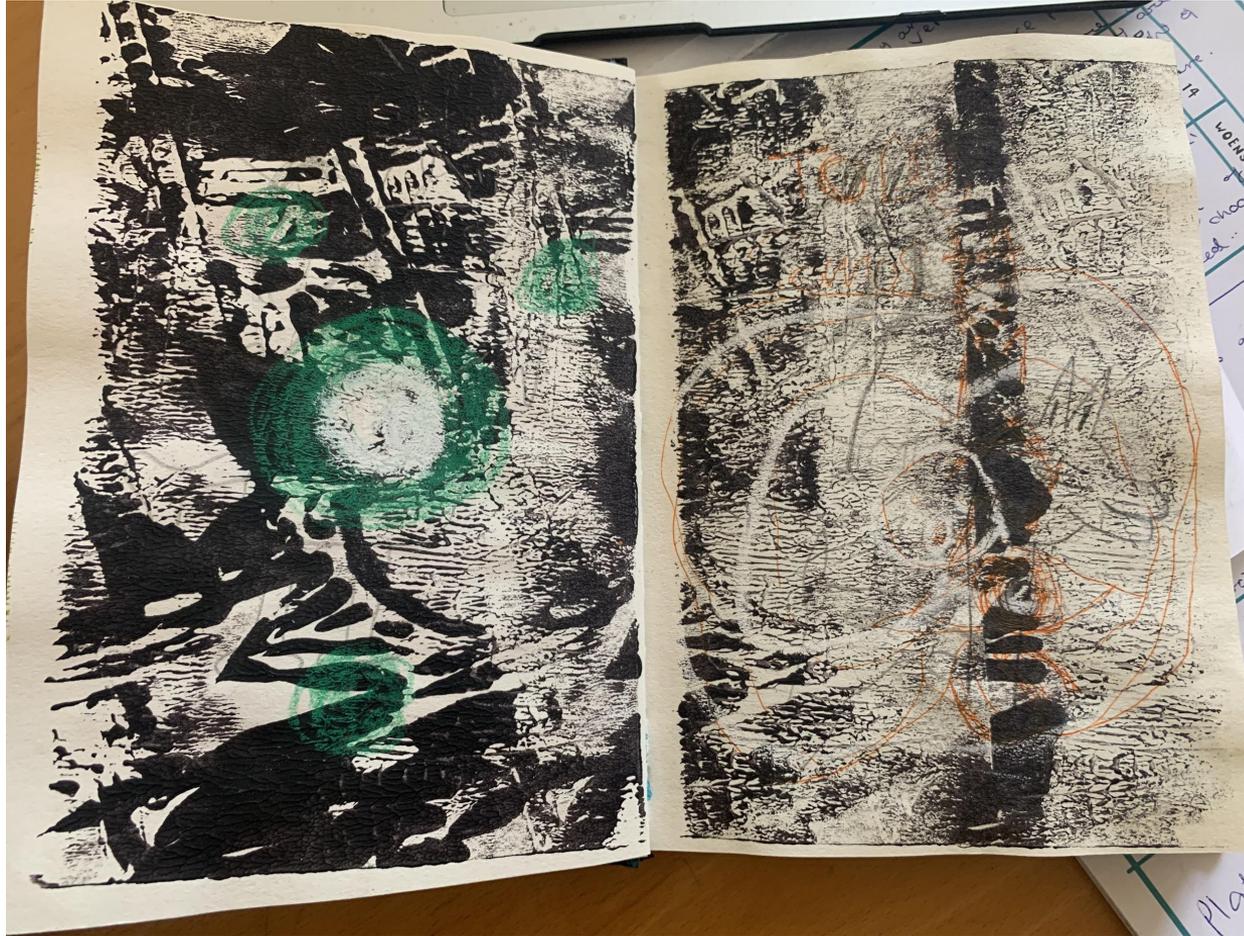
After the tumultuous experience, Beatriz and I went to my best friend's house. She had already met Beatriz back when she was green and has seen her growth throughout the weeks. Beatriz got another makeover.



I love seeing her smile like this.



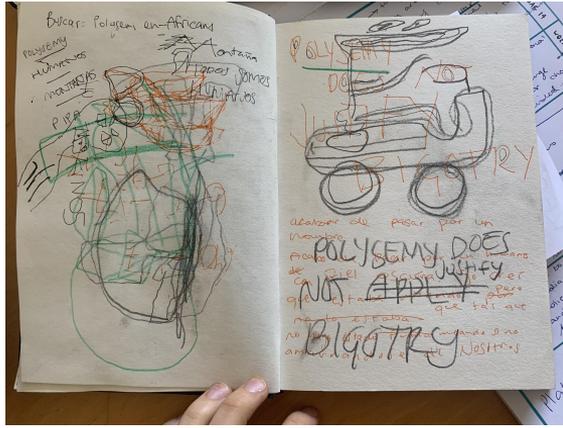
Some chaotic scribbles made when while walking with Beatriz. This was a free throw exercise using only the materials I had taken on my walk.



Degree 4: La Pipa de la Paz

Here I relate Beatriz to the 4th degree *La Pipa de la Paz*. A ritual performed by native American tribes, predominantly in the North of America, where unity amongst tribes and peace would be encouraged/found performing the smoke ritual with tabaco herbs. Currently (June 2020) the world is undergoing uproar in order for equality and the BLM movement. In this degree I try to unite *La Pipa de la Paz* to our social surroundings and perceive it a metaphor for justice. If this reitual would have remained in tact, bigots could reach peaceful thought, such havoc would not be occurring. Incorporating Beatriz to *La Pipa de la Paz* meant incorporating predominantly 4 colours, black to represent the West where the Gods of wind live and send us rain when it is due, white to represent the North where the great winds come from to purify our skies, red represents the East where sunlight comes form to shine knowledge and life on the lives that inhabit the Earth, and yellow which fertilises spring and brings the heat of summer, it helps with the growth of crops and brings life to the humans. In her paint I shared this as well.

When inhaling the smoke of *La Pipa de la Paz* you find gratitude, and during your exhale you make a peaceful wish. Beatriz's (and ultimately my wish) was for equality for all.





Degree 5: Ink

Contrary to common belief, Native Americans did not coexist with horses. Those who helped them hunt and carry their crops were dogs (Chief). Furthermore, there was no waste or “trash” with Native Americans, everything used served a purpose. Modern society developed trash, humans create something and then no longer find use for it.

We can take the art of tattooing into account, and the single use, sterile environment which they have to follow. Although this is to prevent modern diseases such as HIV and to follow health protocol. Native Americans also had methods of tattooing and inking themselves. These were shared and reused amongst the tribe. Tattooing was and is a form of recognition and separation. Sheep wool gets painted on, horses get fire branded, and dogs get collars. Through inking, representation has been developed. In the march, Beatriz stood for BLM. Before this people who met her would also draw on her, leave marks, or give her gadgets. Photos of Beatriz’s development with ink are shown throughout the portfolio.

Due to time restraints and and the awful weather in Rotterdam, I was not able to perform the final degree of Beatriz. My intention were to burn her, and collect her ashes in a glass jar.

Fire would wrap up all of the degrees in the optimum mannar. Fire, in my opinion, is the most destructive of the elements. But in this, it also has its beauty. Fire has brought us warmth, the ability to cook food, to incinerate wasteful goods and but not limited to lighting our joints/cigarettes/pipes. Fire can be the ignition to all aspects of life, for the sun is a ball of fire.

Burning Beatriz is still in my intentions, but I will have to wait for the weather to clear up before I can continue with this ritual.

Degree 6: Fire

Assignment 10



Mistake 1:

Here, I photograph my leg. This has been one huge mistake. My knees, especially my left knee, do not work properly. They are not able to carry much weight and I need physiotherapy to not have constant pains. Furthermore, earlier this year I fell from a tree. This led to serious damage in my left ankle, leaving me unable to walk for nearly two weeks. I am recuperate but pain always comes back. My physiotherapist says I have my dad's knees, which also happen to be weak. I was a mistake from the get-go.



Mistake 2:

Using my left leg I painted on this. I splattered some primary colours on a surface, covered my leg with it and placed it onto paper. Later, I folded the paper in half and then the other half to reach this symmetry. The folding was in fact to cover the remaining paper, as I *failed* to cover all the paper merely painting with my leg.

Mistake 3:

Here I layered 3 drawings onto more paper with the folding exercise from the previous mistake. I used some scrap paper of sketches which failed. I tried to draw my leg on the top paper. Using candle wax I covered certain aspects of the paper, later washing that paper with blue watercolour. The watercolour pierced through candle wax, not resulting in what I had in mind.





Mistake 4:

A collage which appears to not be finished. I had gotten some new glue sticks which I wanted to try out. I wanted to make a collage but the glue would simply not stick. In this image, the strips look tamed but in fact they dissembled shortly after.



Mistake 5:

Using the bad glues I went on a walk with some paper. I would let the glue pick up some bits from surfaces I encountered on the paper. Later I tried using some watercolour pencils to resemble the colours from the previous mistakes. The glue made it complicated for the paint to spread. In relation to the walk, I would think how many of the people surrounding me are strangers and how many know each other.

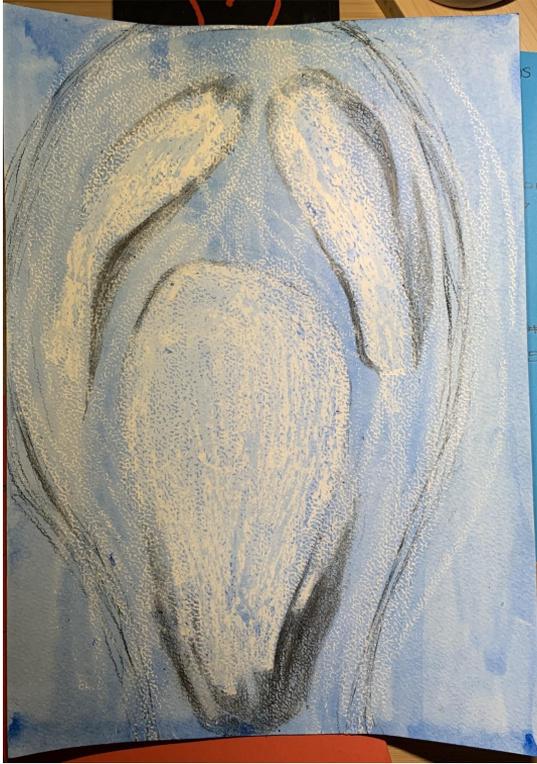


Mistake 6:

Similar to the previous mistake, there were difficulties spreading the colours. By now, I am becoming upset with how the mistakes are looking. They are no longer visually appealing. I think this looks like a fetus. To create a meaning in the story of mistakes, I would like to say that two strangers met and made a fetus.

Mistake 7:

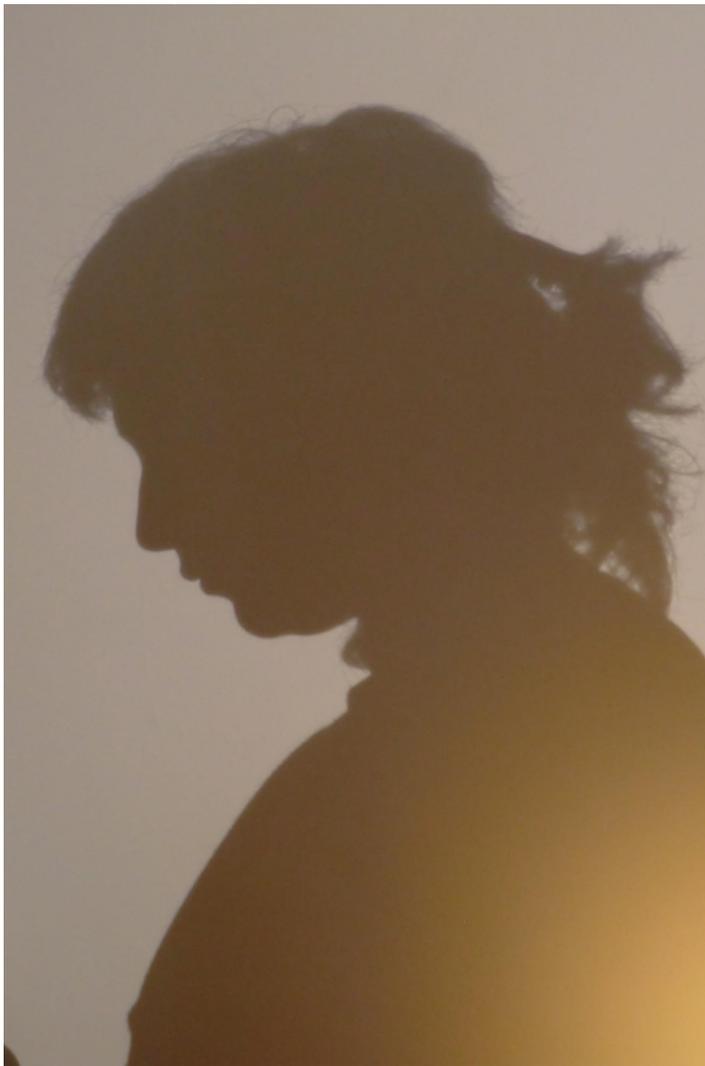
From the watercolour pencil, wax and charcoal used before I made a scream. This scream now represents the horror of bearing an unwanted child with a stranger.





Mistake 8:

Now I use photography. Again on one of my walks I found the phenomena of a pacifier in front of a wedding dress store. I found this to juxtapose the idea of having an unwanted baby, a mistake. My photography here is layered. The photographs were taken quickly in front of a busy road, I did not have time. Layering I tried to correct the mistakes made from the quick photography. These mistakes have started to look better.



Mistake 9:

Being an unwanted baby myself I began to photograph myself. The silhouette was a mistake, later I repeated it to make it look better.



Mistake 10:

I gave my pet rat a piece of melon which was carved with her teeth. I decided to paint the vagina, with the piece of melon, post childbirth.



Mistake 11:

Layering some napkins I made another scream, that during childbirth. Using the remaining paint on the melon piece I added some red onto the predominant blue painting.

Mistake 12:

Excited by using napkins I decided to keep going. I painted with my fingers in this instance. These napkins were easter themed, contrasting them with the dark paints.



Mistake 13:

Final mistake with napkins. Here, I created a stencil of a scream. I sprayed over it with some white spray paint. I gave it 3 layers of white, until I realised the paint was just not strong enough. However it does have an interesting fading look.





Mistake 14:

I transitioned back to paper. Thinking of stencils led me using a roller. I made the mistake of putting the paint on the page before and later on the linoleum.



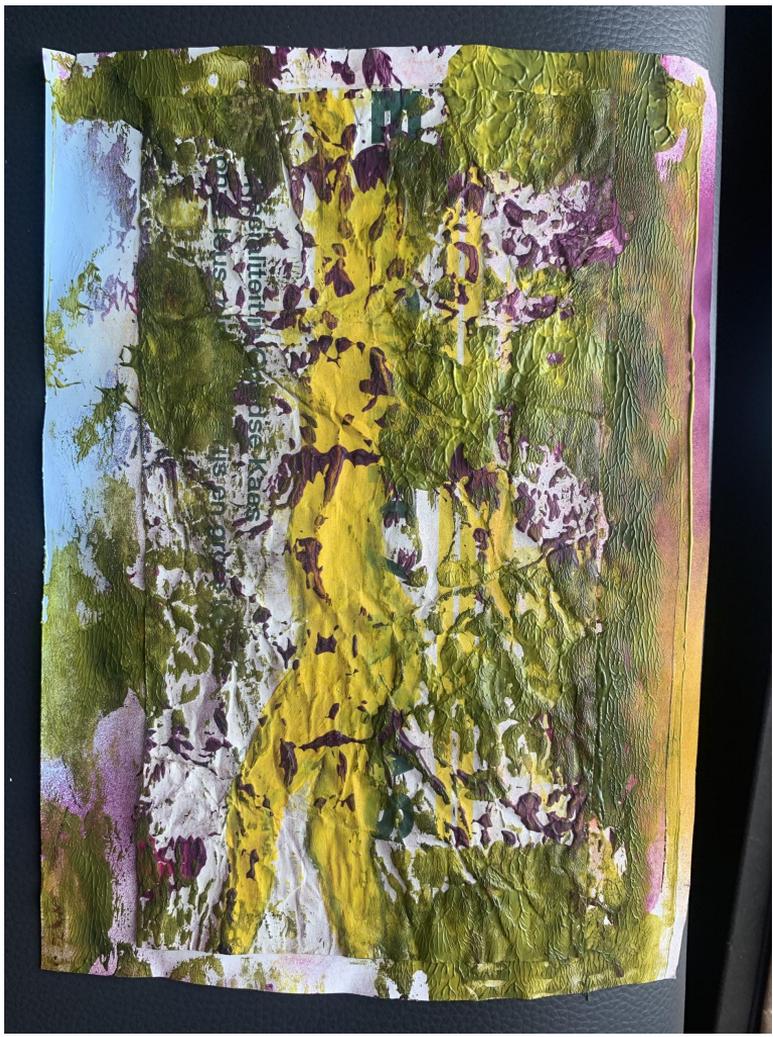
Mistake 15:

With the roller I tried to make an interesting figure to erase some stains of charcoal on my page. This did not work, however I drew a dinosaur on top to make the page more interesting.



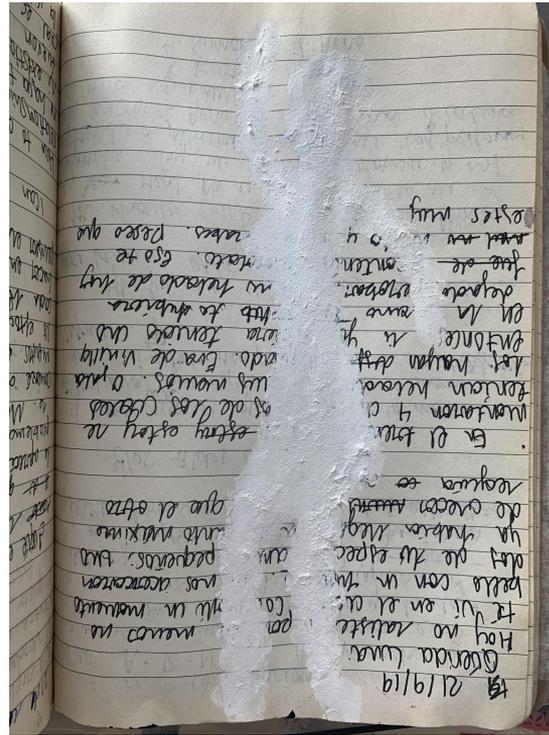
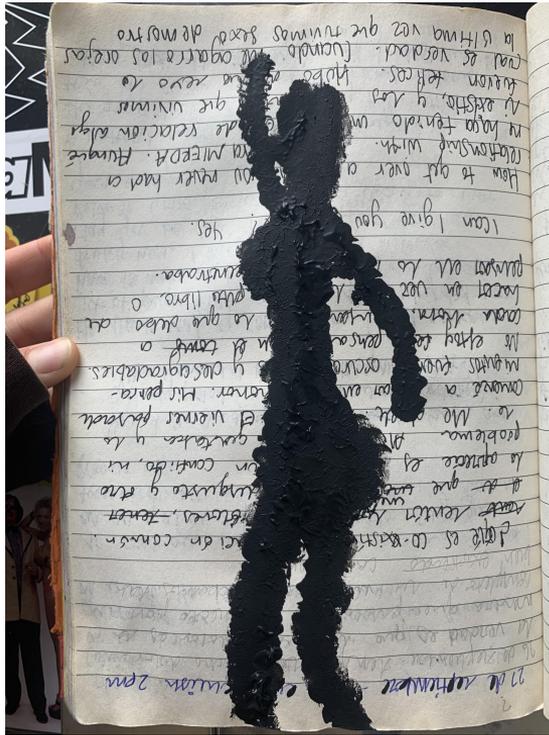
Mistake 16:

Following with the wax method used with watercolour on mistake 7, I tried to do this again but with acrylic paint. My method here was to use the roller from mistake 15 on top of a dinosaur drawn from wax. The wax barely had an effect with the acrylic paint.



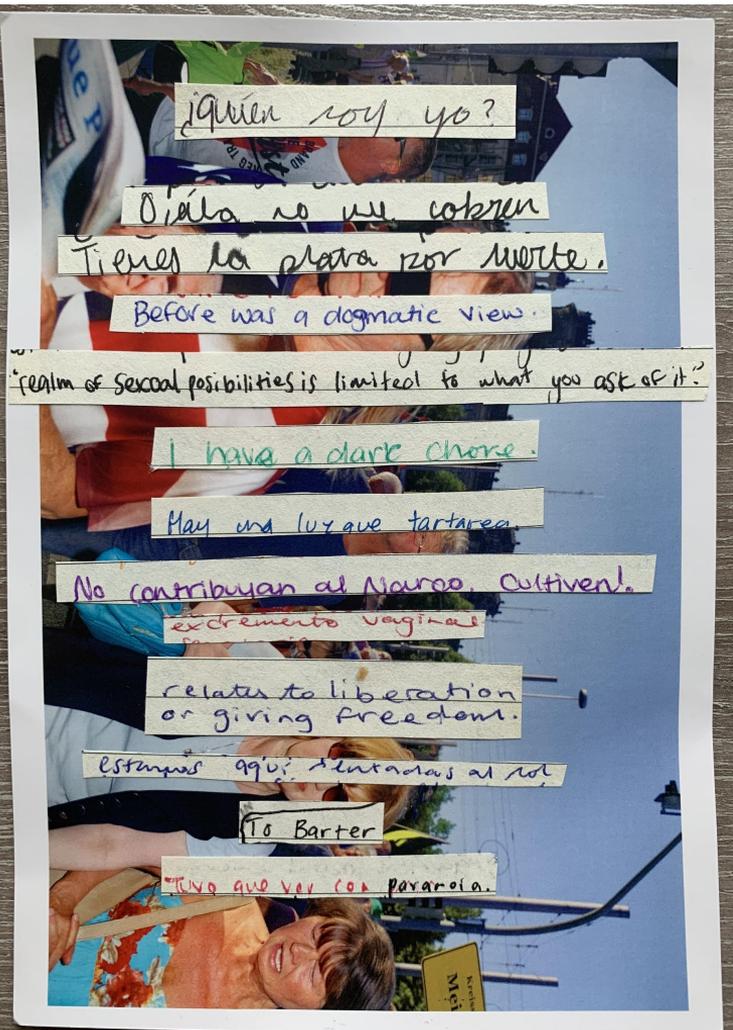
Mistake 17:

Here I try to find texture on a scruffled piece of paper where cheese is wrapped in. Layered below with some other paints and colours.



Mistake 18:

With the below figure I used a dotting method with my finger. I created a series of blue, black and white on different pages of my journal. These entries are from a year ago, and I think the mistakes here are due to my awful spelling and handwriting.



Mistake 19:

I wrote a poem using entries from my journal and stuck them onto an old postcard. I am not sure whether to count using two languages to write a poem a mistake or not. Nevertheless, this method of writing poetry reminds me of the Dada movement.



Mistake 20:

Again I used an old postcard for this mistake. I made a dent into the card with a blunt pencil and sketched quickly my grandmother. Later I covered it with chalk. The chalk did not stay to the glossy paper so I repeated the exercise again but first with a layer of glue. Had to go over the drawing again with blue pen to get the portrait to show.



Mistake 21:

This looks like a big difference between the last mistake. However drawing a portrait got me thinking of other methods in portraying a face. The mistake here is in the mouth (yellow), its size is too similar to the eyes.



Mistake 22:

Following the circle face from before I made a pacman looking figure. I traced it in orange pen, and filled the pores with white chalk.

Mistake 23:

Similar to the pacman face I wanted to recreate it with linoleum. I bordered it with other lines which traced the outcome. The mistake here lies in not being able to get the paint to be delivered onto the sheet properly.





Mistake 24:

The final mistake here follows the psychedelic turn created in the previous mistake. Here the measurements of the box are incorrect.

What can be learned from this exercise is that a series of 24 ANYTHING is tricky and draining of energy. When commencing the exercise I thought that my ideas would flow naturally, but by the end I was dreading the exercise. Yes, some mistakes look much better than others; and those are the ones that are more rewarding after the exercise was complete. Different mediums are a challenge for me I have noticed, but I did try to escape my comfort zone. Mistakes are meant to be ugly and that is how I developed. No piece is the same. Those which I like more serve as potential initial points for future projects.