





Curatorial Rationale

Somebody that was brought up in a dual environment educated and being exposed to a western system. This gives me a rich cultural background in Asia and a Western sense of value. The multi-perspective has led me to focus on controversial topics, such as conflicts and war. Often, some of my perceptions of justice will not fit into knowledge that I acquired from my surroundings. For instance, whether armed force was the most effective approach to deal with threats. Different voices on the justification for war contradicts and leaves me most of the time confused. However, this doesn't necessarily stop me from exploring. As an artist, I want to raise awareness to society of our surroundings and reveal the consequences of war in my precept.

During IB, I have worked with various media such as photography and sculpture, but etching is one of the most notable in my exhibition. By combining traditional etching process with modern techniques (stitching, painting). This incorporates the effects of past wars that are long-lasting and still reverberate in our lives.

Exploring other artists is beneficial to my art refinement and my conceptual understanding. Artists like Picasso's Cubism, used thick paint to create texture in his composition. From there, I developed "Last cigarette", by putting thick layers of colours on top and strong strokes to represent the roughness of war. To build onto that, I used clay to produce a new piece called "I'm melting". The idea of the melted face suggested the irreversible traumas that war has brought to people. Moreover, being shown in a 3D representation allows additional face details in different angles.

I purposely placed the etching of the dragon in the middle of my exhibition to give an overview of the lack of freedom and control in war. The strings from the original etching are extended out from the hand and sprout across the room. The chaotic displacement of the strings creates an overwhelming atmosphere. Thus, linking it to war anxiety.

To utilise all the corner space in my exhibition area. I decided to put my collage image opposite my etching, "Our further". The creation of "Our further" shows the negative impact that protesters brought to their country. In contrast, the collage piece has a somewhat optimistic view and is focused on provoking freedom. Putting them facing right at each other illustrates my predicament; what is the justification of war





I am Melting

20 November 2020

Clay

119 x 84 cm

The piece shows the psychological and physical effects on those victims of war. I used clay as a medium to shape the human face. Whereas the skin is slowly dripping across the skull symbolises the irreversible traumas that war has brought to people's health. The left side of the face depicted a malnourished human face which exposed the poor conditions in the combat. The right side of the skull has used an element of Calavera (Mexican skull) for reference to commemorate dead soldiers.





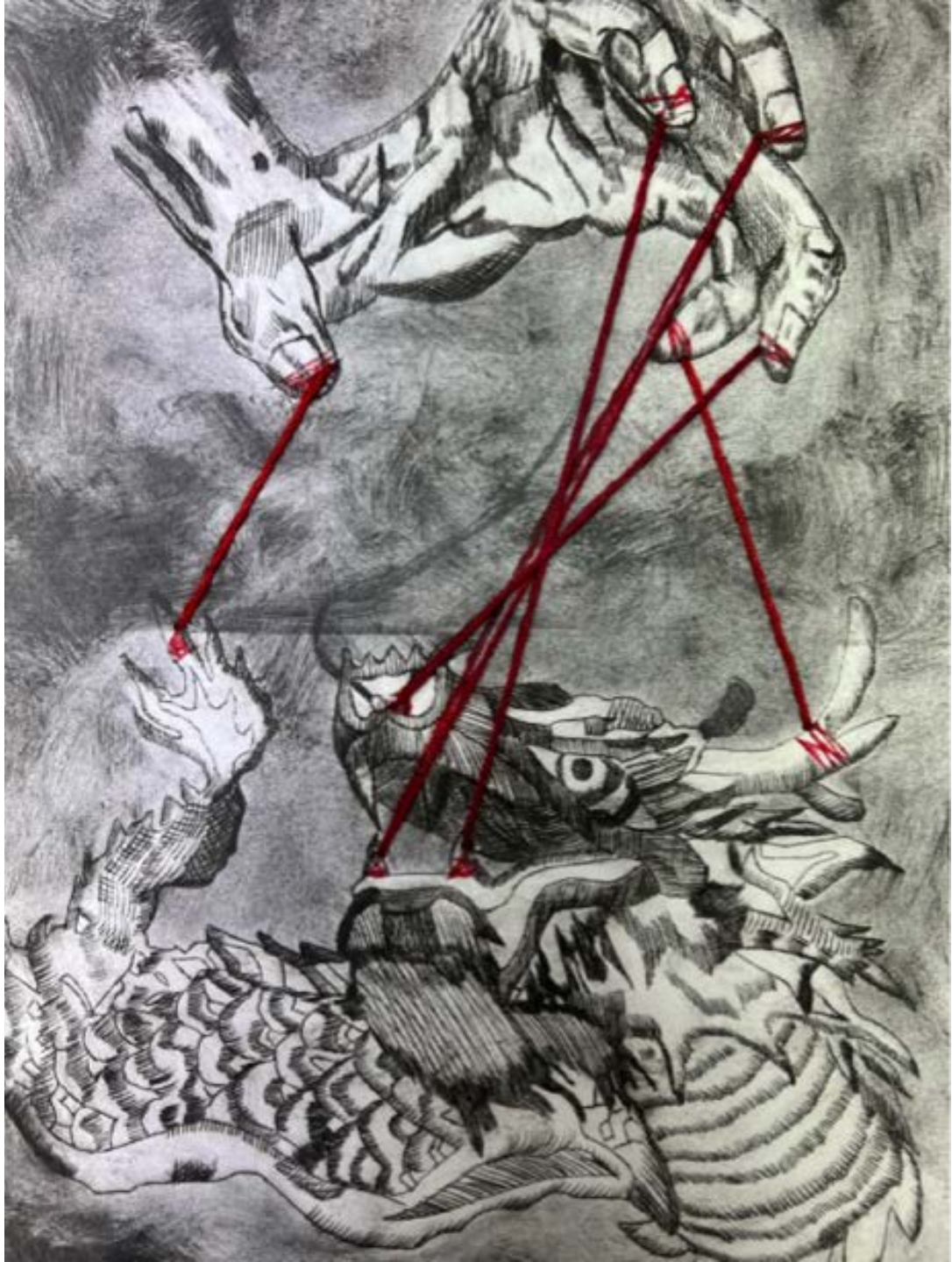
War and peace

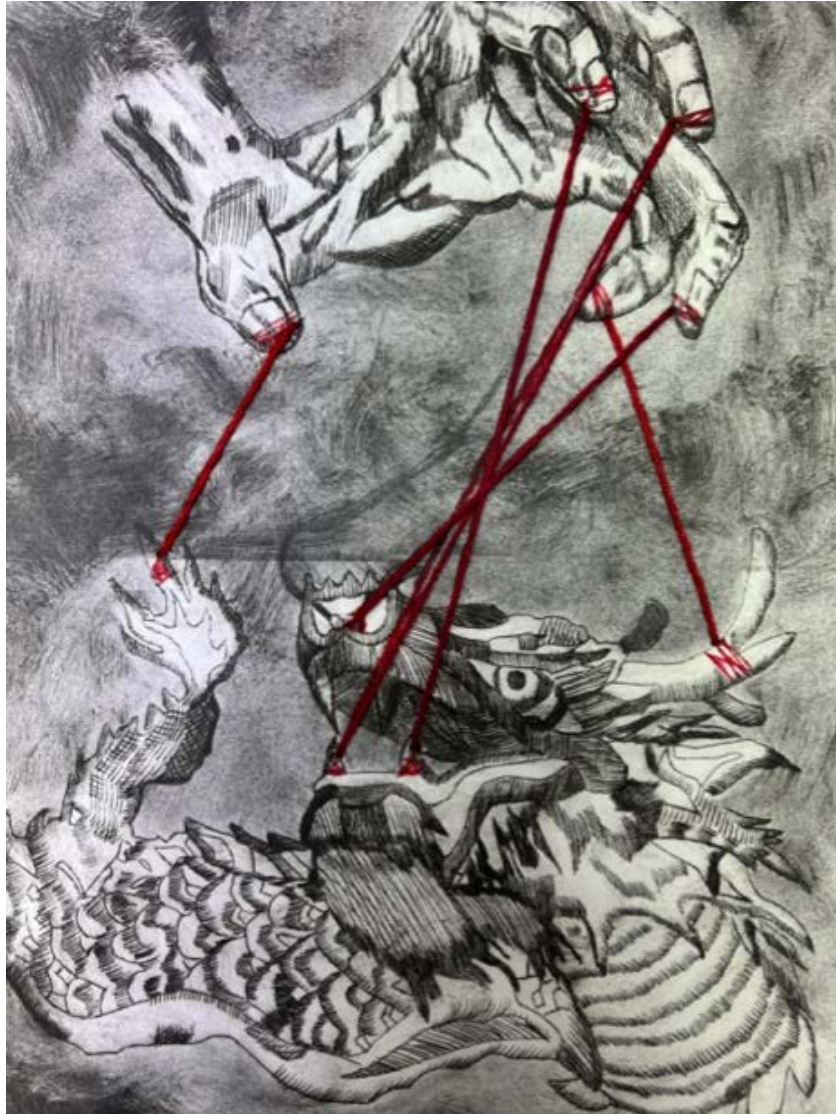
1 December 2020

collage

59.4 x 84.1 cm

To create an anti-war poster. I have referenced Winged Victory of Samothrace that symbolises the guides for humans. However, the angel's face is covered with a TV that is displacing the creation of nuclear weapons. This means the promised peace did not happen and we have brought even more destruction to ourselves. Besides that, most humans are trying to stop wars and are shown at the bottom. The three pigeons flying up the sky also represent the human desire for freedom.





What's next

20 September 2020

Etching

21 x 29.7 cm

This artwork aims to reflect the history of the war 200 years ago in China. The dragon symbolises China, and it is being controlled by the hand above, and the hand symbolises Western force. The dragon looks ferocious. However, when we take a closer look, the dragon is attached by strings and is puppeted by the hand above. The lack of freedom shows the manipulation of Western forces. I incorporated the laying techniques of Paula Rego's artwork, and the idea is to create a moody atmosphere.

Index	
Page 1	1
Page 2	2
Page 3	3
Page 4	4
Page 5	5
Page 6	6
Page 7	7
Page 8	8
Page 9	9
Page 10	10
Page 11	11
Page 12	12

SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 1942

End War Now, Strong Demands



Over 175,000 Rally at Capitol

By Paul W. Walker and Edward H. Gearty
A well-attended demonstration on the lawns in front of the U.S. Capitol building today brought to a speedy end the longest peace rally since the outbreak of the war.

For Man This War Best Time

By Paul W. Walker and Edward H. Gearty
The war is the best time for a man to be a man, according to a survey conducted by the U.S. Army and Navy Department.

A portion of the crowd gathered in front of the U.S. Capitol for the demonstration.

Protest: They Call for the Armistice Softened

By Paul W. Walker
The war is the best time for a man to be a man, according to a survey conducted by the U.S. Army and Navy Department. The survey, which was conducted by the U.S. Army and Navy Department, found that the war is the best time for a man to be a man.

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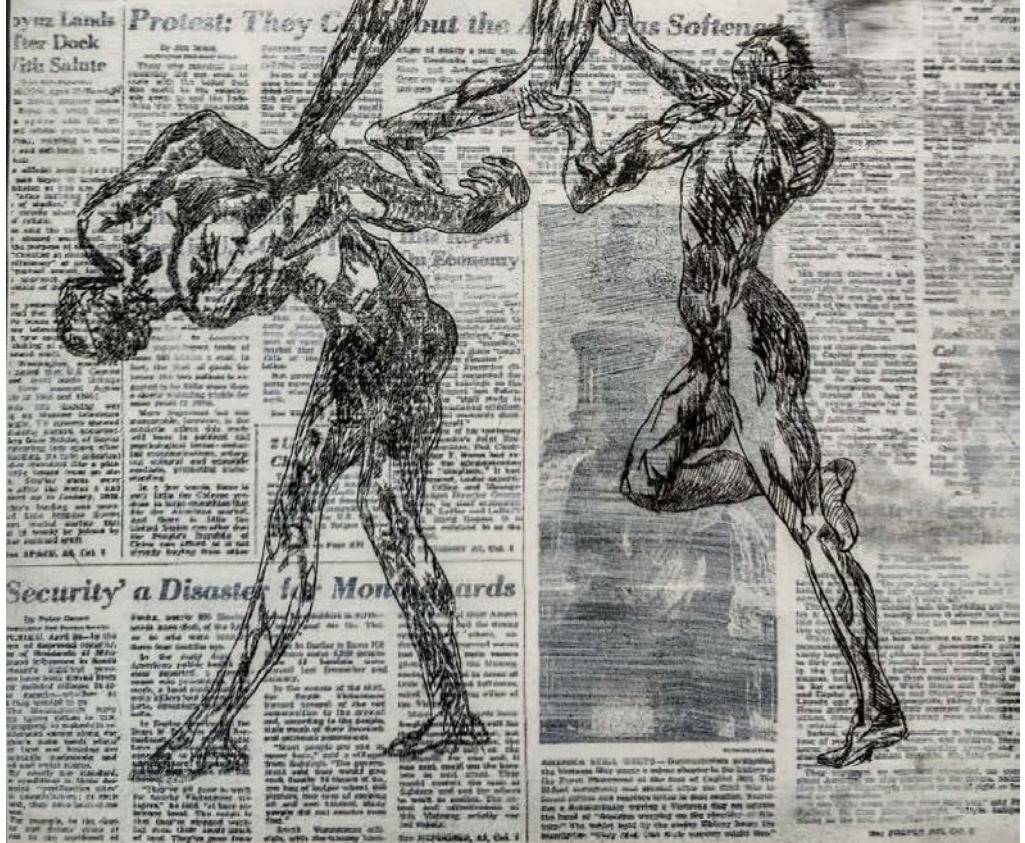
Security' a Disaster for Monarchs

By Paul W. Walker
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Our future

20 October 2021

Etching

29.7 x 42cm

The artwork represents the recent protest that was held by young elites in Hong Kong. Most of their acts during the protests were considered extreme and had brought destruction to the city. Ironically, their acts were still supported by external forces. In the printing, we can see a protester that is blindfolded and the idea of being blindfolded, suggesting they are not thoughtful. The idea of being held up and trying to change the angle of the star, suggesting their actions were challenging.





last cigarette

3 March 2020

Oil paint

I wanted to show the significance and courage of soldiers in the aftermath of war. The burn marks on the soldier's face is vividly depicted using multiple layers of paint. His apathy towards the current world is reinforced to the audience through the pitch-black background. However, the shrapnel shells are colorful and symbolise the creation of better lives for their next generation. The idea of keeping the soldier's face anonymous is to represent all the soldiers that sacrificed their lives.



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