

**Words:** Kristina Bartosova

**Illustration:** Nicole Willis

What do we think about when we think about art?

Most think clichés; a Canon camera around the neck,  
obsession over Helvetica and deep hatred for Comic  
Sans, paint in the hair and dressmaker's pins everywhere.

But we! We are passion and ambition.

We are delicate and powerful brushstrokes,

We are new fonts and typefaces,

We are arrangements and layouts.

We are last-minute trips to the Whitworth Gallery,

We are sneaking snacks into the art rooms,

We are late nights, long nights, all-nighters.

We are the clicking of the MacBook keypad,

We are the noise of sewing machines,

We are screen-printing, mono-printing, normal printing.

We are ideas!

Ideas that are good, bad... sometimes regretful,

Ideas for the sake of creation,

Ideas that scream "yes!"

It is enthusiasm, excitement, dynamism and challenges.

Mistakes and failures,

Starting again and again,

New beginnings, old beginnings,

New sketchbook!

First time your voice is heard,

Loud opinions, quiet opinions, important opinions.

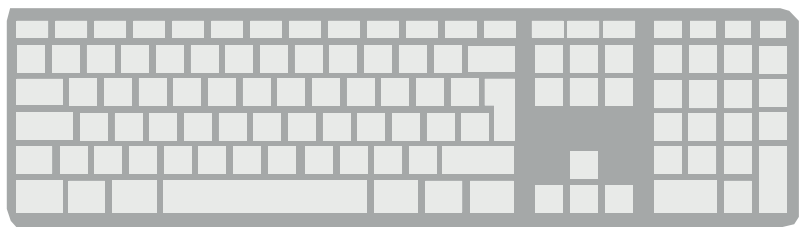
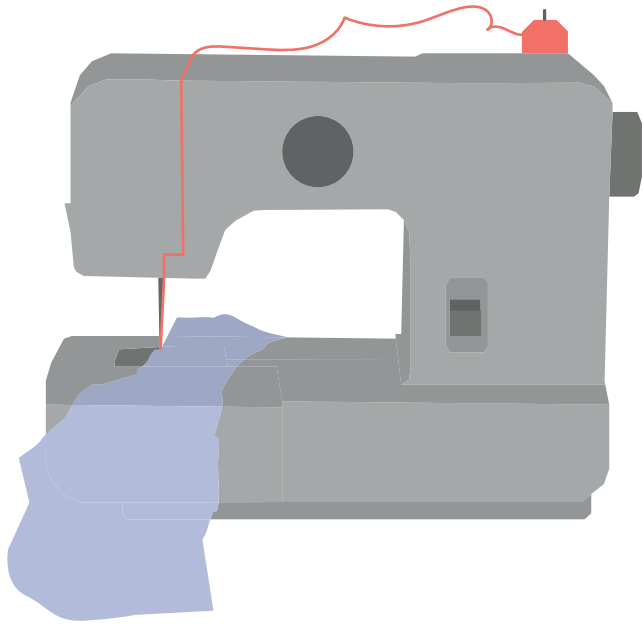
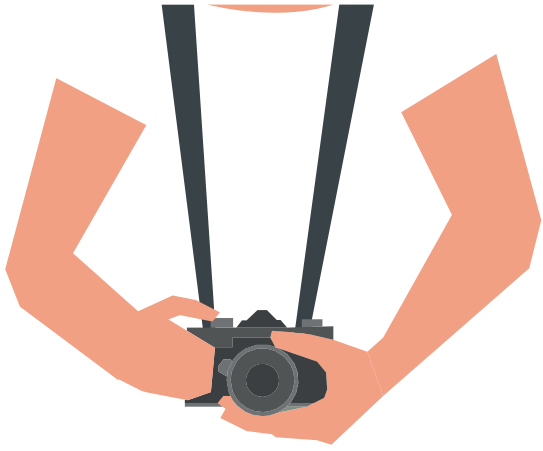
Look what we've seen! Look what we've written! Look  
what we've done!

The world hasn't changed,

Yet,

Everything has changed.

And now that the grades are given and projects are  
finished, we look back at this funny thing that we've  
called our A-Levels and look out to the chasm that  
life spreads before us. Now is the best time to remind  
ourselves of who we were and in some ways what we  
will always be.



**Words:** Libby Russell

**Illustration:** Verity Wolestenholme

As I sit down to write this, History and English revision material is taking over my bedroom floor. However, for the past few months or so Component 1 and 2 have taken over not only my room, but also my life in general. It is times like this, that makes us Art, Graphics, Photography and Textiles students recall the so often spoken and the so unequivocally wrong phrase:

"Art is easy"

Not only is the generalisation annoying but it suggests that the many hours spent on our work and the stress we are under is irreverent. The £107 spent on printer credit, the tears spilt over a broken sewing needle, the £18 spent on mount boards and the sleepless nights worrying about fonts means nothing. Zero. Zilch. Nada. Now Art + Design does not equate to money, it's the passion and personality behind what we create that summarises this whole experience. It's the ideas, the trials, the tribulations and the sense of pride in completion. We have no model answers, we only have our own blood, sweat and tears. Art after all is personal; we designed this, we made this and we did this with our own two hands. Whilst an A in Maths or Accounting may be more satisfying to some, walking into this exhibition and being able to say "Yeah that's mine, and it took 15 hours" is worth a whole lot more to me. Now please whatever you do for the sake of your son or daughter, brother or sister, friend or stranger never, and I mean never, say "Art is easy" because it's not.

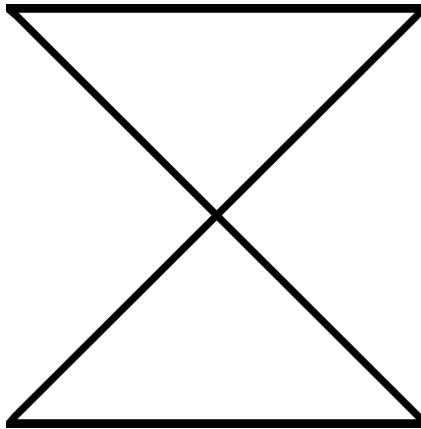
Art is personal  
Art is passion  
Art is this

**ART  
IS**

**EASY.**

THERE'S  
A FINE  
LINE  
BETWEEN  
ART  
AND  
BOLLOCKS.

**Y** **IT'S NOT** **E** **A** **SUBJECT** **H** **IS**  
**BUT** **REALLY** **'PROPER'** **IT** **?**



**Words:** Katie Lockett

Studying Art at Holy Cross has been a journey, from getting to know one another and developing and understanding our creative practice to connecting with the teachers. We constantly explore and expand our knowledge, learning new techniques and experimenting with materials. Most importantly, Holy Cross gave us the freedom to express ourselves.

From the first lesson to the last there is the option to trial new methods and discover what you enjoy. No two lessons are ever the same, from being taught unique techniques to incorporating them into our own development and work. A key attribute of studying Art at Holy Cross is the new experiences available to us, such as life drawing and visiting renowned galleries and museums across the UK. This helped increase our skill set and to create a distinct portfolio.

The Art department became my second home, it is somewhere that makes you feel welcome and comfortable to create! We are taught to be independent whilst being fully supported by both our peers and teachers. You have the chance to cross-over into other disciplines: we are encouraged to use the Photography studio, 3D room and experiment with screen-printing. The support and opportunities available, have allowed my fine art practice to naturally progress throughout the course and I am excited for the future.





JENNIFER ARCHER



EVIE ARMSTRONG-RAND



RYAN BAMFORD



KRISTINA BARTOSOYA



MARTHA BIRTLES



LOUISE BOWDEN



SERENA BRANCH



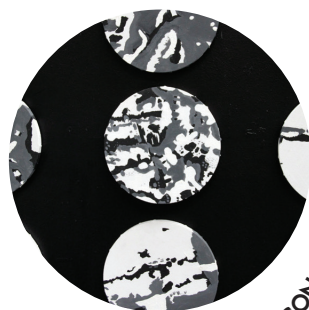
CAMILLA CAMPBELL



OLIVIA COHEN



DILLON DAVENPORT



GRACE DAWSON



OLIVIA DONNELLY



RAYNA ELMS



HEATHER FOX



ISABELLE FRANCE



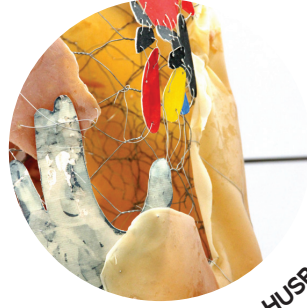
ABIGAIL GARDNER



MATILDA HARDWICK



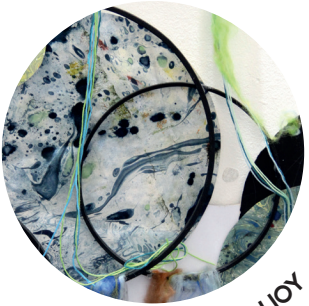
AMY HOLDEN



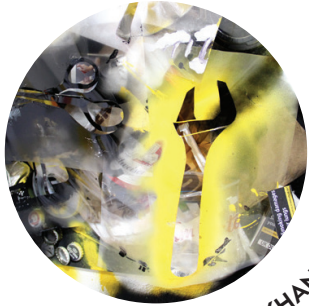
JOSHUA HUSBANDS



ELLA JACKSON



HANNAH JOY



ALICIA KHAN



JACK KIRKPATRICK



KATIE LOCKETT



SIMRA MAHMOOD



BETH MARSHALL KING



NILOUFAR MEHRABAN



ADAM MIAHED



MELISSA OWEN



ROWAN PRENTICE



HANNAH PROBERT VERNON



HOLLIE ROBINSON



ELIZABETH RUSSELL



OLIwia SERWILSKA



MADLINE SMITH



AMY TAYLOR



ELENOR TEASDALE



MARY WALKER



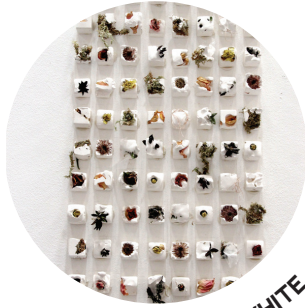
MEGAN WALSH



HANNAH WARREN



DOMINIKA WATROBA



LEAH WHITE



MILLICENT WILDE



ELLIE WRIGHT



**Words:** Lauren Kenyon

Textiles design is a part of countless products in our surroundings, as well as diverse design fields and industries. Being a Textiles student has forced me to see details and recognise how things are created, I often notice how a particular clothing, print or wallpaper is made as we will have studied the process in the classroom. Being a Textiles student also makes you notice how clothing can be an extension of a person's personality, it is interesting to think that different textile forms are distinct to the individual.

Studying Textiles has given me the ability to adapt materials, helping me avoid waste and forcing me to think more creatively. You learn the necessary skills to put your designs or a product out into the world, the products of our hard work are often affordable, unique and the techniques I have learnt will prepare me for a creative career outside of education. I would definitely recommend Holy Cross College as the place to study Textiles, the staff are extremely supportive and always have your best interests at heart. The only negative, is sometimes there is a lot of work to be done at once, but it can definitely be managed and if the student works their hardest- nothing is impossible!



HANNAH BESWICK



HADIYAH BINT-ASAM



MOLLY BRIERLEY



LILI CROWE



BETHANY CUNLIFFE



SHANNON GALLAGHER



MATILDA HARDWICK



HANNAH JOY



LAUREN KENYON



ELIA MCCORMICK



ABIGAIL QUINN



HOLLIE ROBINSON



MOLLY SERRIDGE



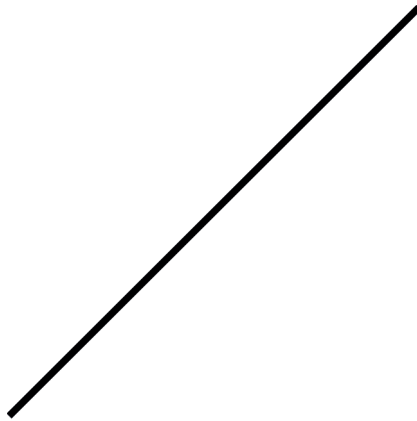
OLIWIA SERWILSKA



KIRSTEN TORKONIAK



OLIVIA WHITE



**Words:** Evie Armstrong-Rand

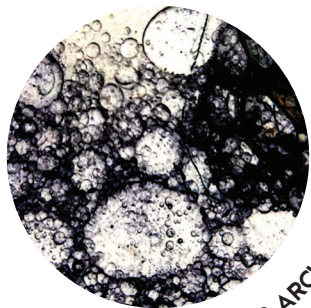
Photography is a very creative outlet, so for me, it has definitely changed the way I look at the world. On numerous family road trips, I have had many 'stop the car' moments. Whether it is a landscape, or I have seen lines and patterns in my surroundings which no-one else would think to notice, I have had to stop and take a picture.

I enjoy taking shoots on film, I feel like my patience has improved dramatically as I have to wait for the outcome of the photographs. At first, I got stressed when taking a photograph and I often wondered if the ISO was too high and worried I had not managed to capture the moment. It was stressful not having the photograph automatically. However, being able to develop the film was my favourite part. You start with a blank film and then suddenly images form- it is a very exciting process. Generally speaking with photography, I think there is no right or wrong way of taking a photograph, the creative control is left to the photographer. We can bring our own vision to life how we want to see it. I would definitely recommend taking Photography at Holy Cross as it is a very creative course, it also allows you to bring in graphic design skills and more.





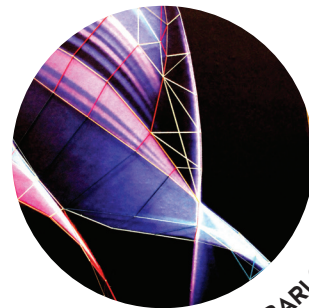
ALI AHMAD



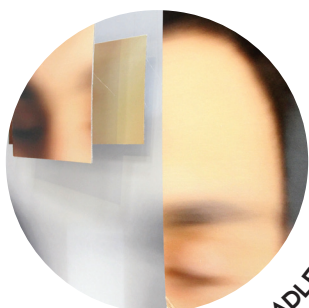
JENNIFER ARCHER



EVIE ARMSTRONG-RAND



MOLLIE BARLOW



KATIE BRADLEY



MOLLY BRIERLEY



DARIUS CAMPBELL



LILI CROWE



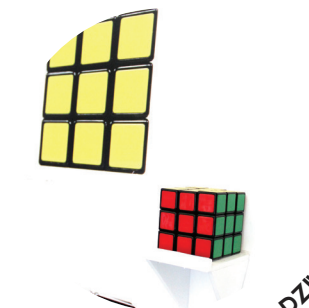
DILLON DAVENPORT



ANNA DIXON



GEORGIA DIXON



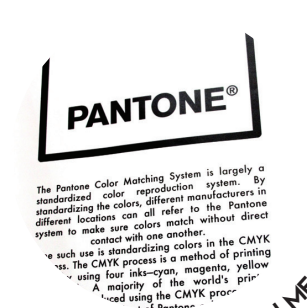
KLAUDIA DZIUBA



LYDIA HALL



KERRY HANRAHAN



EUAN HOLMES



ABBIE HOLT



CHLOE JONES



JESS KELLY



LAUREN KENYON



NIMRA KHANUM



MOLLY LEWIS



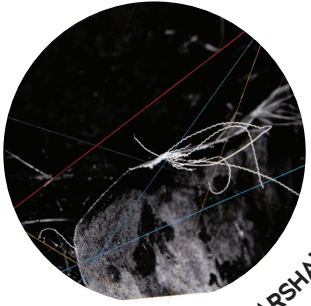
COREY LIGNUM



SIMRA MAHMOOD



SABAH MANSUR



BETH MARSHALL KING



GHULAM MEHDI



CAITLIN MOLLOY



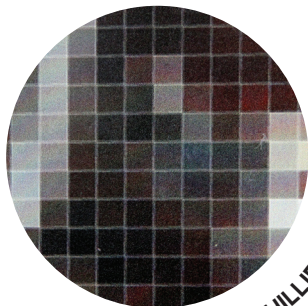
CHLOE NABB



THOMAS O'NEILL



DANIEL OPENSHAW



ALTON PHILLIPS



CHARLOTTE QUIGG





RYAN RISTIC



JACOB SALVIN



AOIFE SANSOM



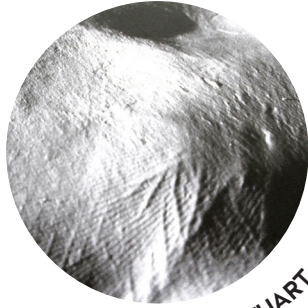
OLIwia SERWILSKA



EMELIA SIM



ASHLEIGH SKORZEWSKI



AMY STUART



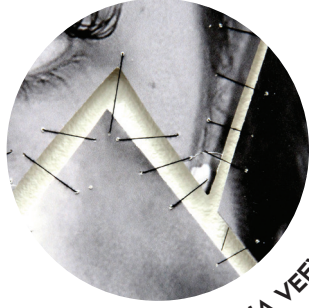
AMY TAYLOR



ELENOR TEASDALE



ROANNA VAN OS



GEORGIA VEEVERS



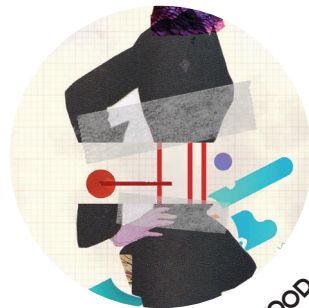
ZACHARY WATSON



NICOLE WILLIS



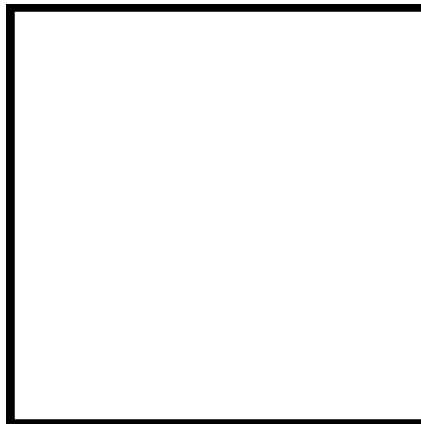
LOUIS WOLFENDEN



KATIE WOOD



SAMRAH ZAIR



**Words:** Verity Wolstenholme

I never understood how important design is before I did A-Level graphics, now everywhere I go I can not help but notice how much it shapes the messages we see in our everyday lives. Graphic design really is everywhere: in shop windows, in museums, in the countless billboards and posters we see on our way to college and work. It is responsible for some of the most iconic and recognisable brands in the world.

Over the past two years, I have become more comfortable in my own skin as a designer and I have learnt to trust my creative decisions. I think it is important – especially in a society where creative individuality can be shunned by mainstream culture – that we as young people have a creative release. For me, graphic design has been just that. It has been a chance to take a break from memorising and analysing the whole American political system, only for it to come down to an hour and a half long session in an exam room. The design work I have produced will stay with me for a lifetime. I could not be prouder of myself and my fellow Graphics students for making it through the past two years to produce some of the most awe-inspiring, personal design work I have ever seen. Perhaps many of us will continue to pursue creative paths, but others may not. But there is one thing I know for certain – we have all learnt to appreciate a good typeface when we see one!



SALI AL-SHAKHLI



ANISAH ALI



JONATHON ALLEN



EVIE ARMSTRONG-RAND



SAMERA ASHFAQ



CALEB BAILEY



RYAN BAMFORD



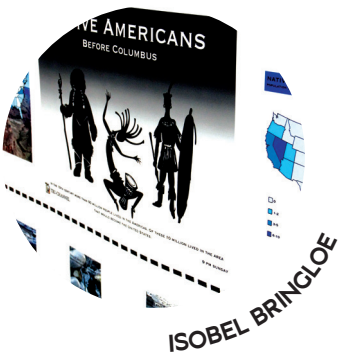
SERENA BRANCH



MOLLY BRIERLEY



BETHANY BRINDLE



ISOBEL BRINGLOE



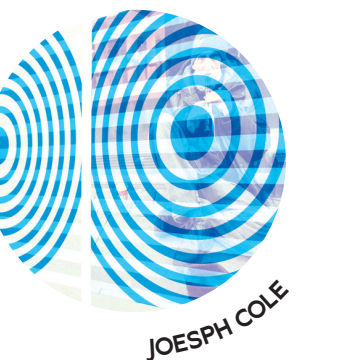
NATHAN BROWN



JADE BUTCHERS



DARIUS CAMPBELL



JOESPH COLE



ANNA DIXON



OLIVIA DONNELLY



JORDAN DRURY



HEATHER FOX



GEORGE HARVEY



MALIK HASSAN KHALID



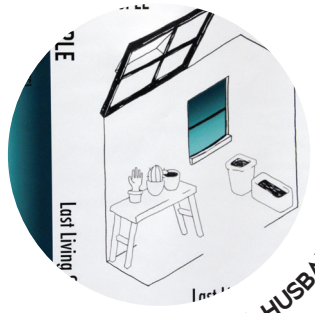
EUAN HOLMES



ORAN HOWARD



MASON HUGHES



JOSHUA HUSBANDS



HENNA ILAHI



OLIVIA JACKSON



JESS KELLY



LAUREN KENYON



MELAD KHALIL



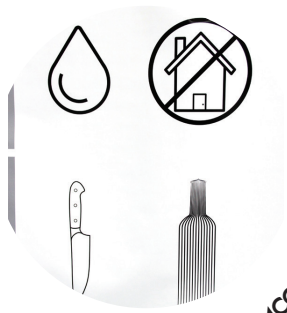
COREY LIGNUM



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BETH MARSHALL KING



CALLUM MCCARTNEY



NILOUFAR MEHRABAN



JAMIE MORLING



LEWIS MOSEY



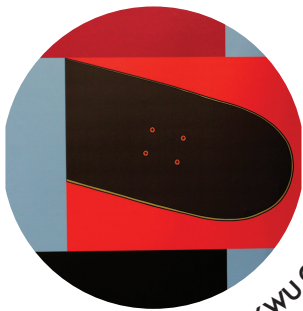
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MATTHEW O'REILLY



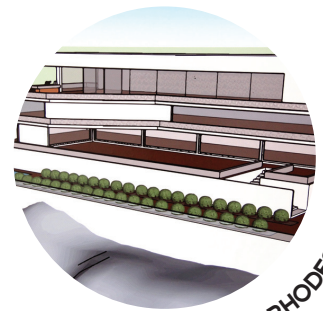
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JACOB SALVIN



CORA SHEPHERD



EMELIA SIM



SARA TAFAZZOLI



WILLIAM TAYLOR



OLIVER TIMPERLEY



JESSICA TROUTT



ROANNA VAN OS



GREGORY WALL WORK



HAMZA WASIM



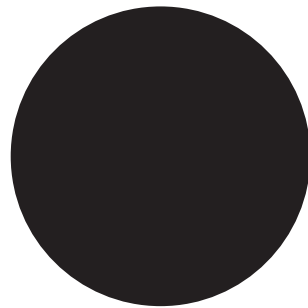
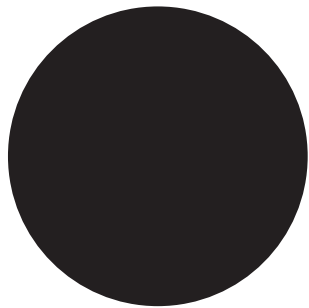
NICOLE WILLIS

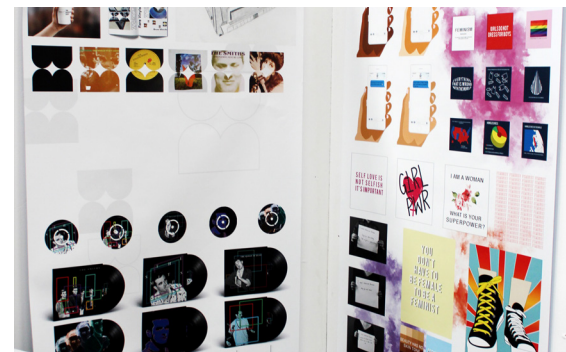
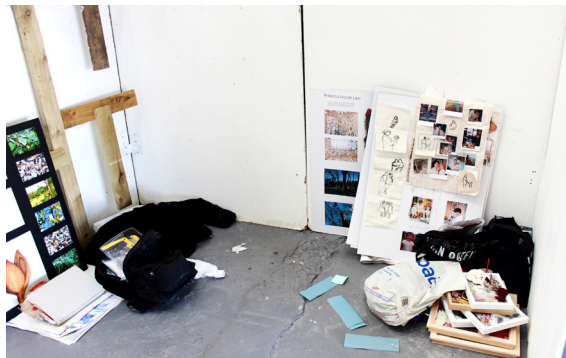
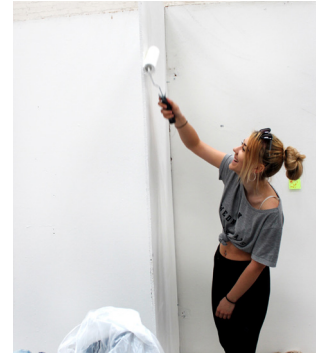
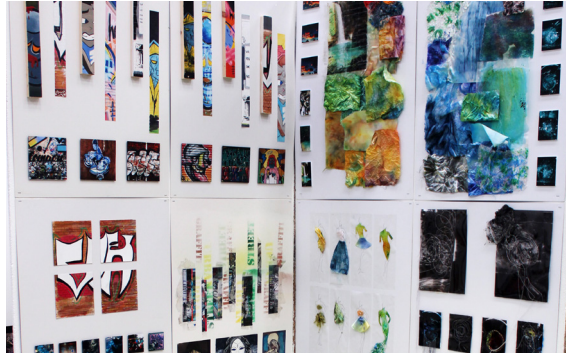


VERITY WOLSTENHOLME



KATIE WOOD





## Exhibition Set- up

When strolling through the exhibition, filled with pristinely mounted work, it can be easy to disregard the hours (or in some cases days) of effort that went into the installation process. With 4 days of prep across 4 disciplines, the stress levels amongst the 173 students and their teachers was evident right up to Thursday's 3 o' clock deadline.

Each project required a very different approach to mounting; some spent an hour pasting stickers to their exhibition space, while others re-assembled ginormous sculptures made from tree branches and paper cubes. It was this diversity of approaches that made the 4 days so excitingly tumultuous and hectic for everyone involved.



This year's exhibition marks Holy Cross' 8th year of off-site Art & Design exhibitions, with over 1200 students having displayed their work. Being able to mount and display your own work to the public is a very valuable opportunity to have as a budding Art & Design student, as it instills confidence and encourages independence.

As well as looking forward to what exciting things lie ahead for us, we think it is important to see where past-students have ended up. Alicia Eccleston, a former-student herself, has interviewed those who have spread their wings and taken on the Art & Design world.



**Words:** Alicia Eccleston

**Laura Hopkinson**

Laura Hopkinson is a past Holy Cross student (2009 – 2011) currently working at the BBC, whilst also co-directing Scaffold Gallery. In this catch up interview, she gives us an insight into life after education.

Year of Holy Cross Exhibition: 2011

Location: The Rock, Bury.

**A-Levels studied:** Art, Graphics & Photography.



**How are YOU? What are you up to at the moment?**

I am tremendous, thank you. I have my own studio where I continue my art practice and exhibit my work regularly – most recently working in video, performance and writing. I co-run 'Scaffold Gallery' which has been going since 2015. Scaffold Gallery is a gallery institution without a gallery building, producing unique temporary exhibitions, moving from space to space, showing and promoting early career artists. I also work in the art department for CBeebies and CBBC.

**Looking back at your exhibition at Holy Cross, how did you find the experience and how beneficial do you think it is?**

For me, it was a taster to what lay ahead for the next four years at University. It is also an enjoyable way to celebrate your peers and your own hard work. Knowing how to showcase your work within spaces is vital in all artists and designers' careers, so dabbling in curation at that early stage is undoubtedly beneficial.

**Can you give us an insight into your creative practice at College and an insight into the work you exhibited in your final exhibition?**

I would describe it as explorative. With doing three art subjects I was able to try out quite a range of techniques and materials. I made digital paintings, a typography crime scene, photographs of shredded photographs of shredded photographs (and so on), plus an abstract wooden sculpture of a bird, and more.

**Do you have any advice for our Upper Sixth Art and Design students leaving College about working in the creative industry or any general advice?**

Don't make decisions about what you want to do that satisfy anybody else but you. If you don't get the job you desire straight away there is always enough free time to work on your creative practice.

## Izzy Coyle

An interview with ex-Holy Cross student (2015 – 2017) Izzy Coyle, a recent Manchester School of Art Foundation student progressing on to University to study Textiles at Chelsea College of Arts.

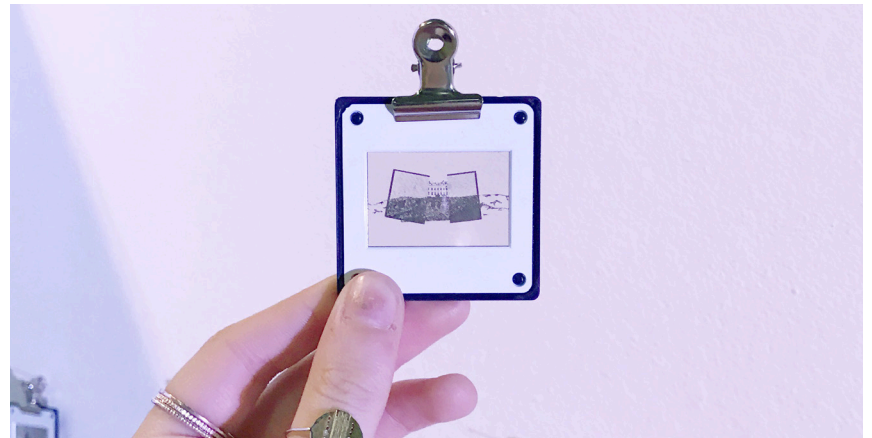
Year of Holy Cross Exhibition: 2017

Location: An industrial warehouse in Bury– Unit 2, J2 Bridge Hall Lane.

**A-Levels studied: Art, Textiles & Photography.**

### **How are YOU? What are you up to at the moment?**

I have just spent the last year completing a Foundation in Art and Design at Manchester School of Art, specialising in Textiles. I've really enjoyed doing this course, as it is all studio based, you get your own space to work in and you are surrounded by like-minded people. This resulted in being part of a supportive community which has been so beneficial when building up a portfolio for degree interviews. I am now enjoying a summer break after a busy year and getting ready to go travelling for a month with people that I actually met in the Holy Cross Art Department.



### **Looking back at your exhibition at Holy Cross, how did you find the experience and how beneficial do you think it is?**

Having the opportunity to take part in an exhibition at college was such an enjoyable experience. It gave me an insight into what preparing an exhibition was like, stressful in parts but overall it was really rewarding. It's something nice that you can look back on and a reminder of the work everyone in the department made. I also found myself thinking back to it when putting together my Foundation Exhibition this year, I realised how much I actually learnt from it, like how to mount work correctly and how to be selective when displaying work.



### **Can you give us an insight into your creative practice at College and an insight into the work you exhibited in your final exhibition?**

Studying three different Art & Design based subjects meant most of my work really varied between each subject, I found this helped a lot as it meant I got to experiment with multiple different ideas and mediums. In the second year, I did a lot of work experimenting with found materials and collage in Photography and Art and I also got the chance to work with the printing press to create a collection of prints based on the British Coast. In Textiles, I looked at the human form and used photography and life drawing as a reference to create a number of sculptural pieces and wearables. I looked closely at the shapes and textures of the human body and skin using knit and plaster as a medium. I felt all of this was reflected in my final exhibition and was extremely happy with the outcome.



### **Do you have any advice for our Upper Sixth Art and Design students leaving College about working in the creative industry or any general advice?**

I would try to consistently involve yourself and take part in as many opportunities as possible that are going to help you expand your knowledge and skill set, whether it's a skill-based workshop, life drawing, or going on a gallery visit. I have found by doing this, it has always pushed my own work further and led me to be more experimental.

## Imogen Brady

An interview with an ex-Holy Cross student (2012 –2014) and now a University Fine Art & Art History student, Imogen Brady, explains her exhibition experience.

Year of Holy Cross Exhibition: 2014

Location: Mill Gate Shopping Centre, Bury.

A-Levels studied: Art, Classical Civilisation, Theology & Philosophy.



**How are YOU? What are you up to at the moment?**

I think I am ok! I am a Fine Art & Art History undergraduate student at Kingston School of Art, London but I am currently on an Erasmus work & study abroad year. I have recently completed a work placement with a not-for-profit artist-run organisation called Pallas Projects/Studios in Dublin, Ireland and I am coming to the end of my semester studying at l'École Supérieure d'Art et Design in Valence, France. It has been hectic, but I've really enjoyed having the time to get to grips with the real world of artist communications and experiencing life within a French art institution.

**Looking back at your exhibition at Holy Cross, how did you find the experience and how beneficial do you think it is?**

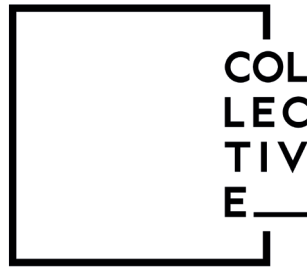
I found the experience both exciting and challenging. On the one hand, our work still had to be graded and had to meet the assessment criteria, so it was a challenge to get everything there and installed in a way that was suitable for marking. On the other hand, we had this large, open space which presented lots of exciting and potential outcomes for our work.

**Can you give us an insight into your creative practice at College and an insight into the work you exhibited in your final exhibition?**

During my time at college my art practice was generally a mixture of sculpture, painting/collage and installation. I made most of my pieces from wood and my projects were heavily influenced by my own photographic development or documentation of places. One of my final pieces was influenced by the national grid, with a suspended electricity paraphernalia inside a wooden grid frame. The other was a group of standing wooden sculptures that had been painted with various elements of some photographs I'd taken of built environments. I projected larger images over the structures and as the images changed a new landscape was formed..

**Do you have any advice for our Upper Sixth Art and Design students leaving College about working in the creative industry or any general advice?**

My advice for A-Level students who are interested in pursuing a degree in an Arts subject or aim to work in creative industries is to do an art foundation course after college. During my foundation year, for the first time in education, I had an opportunity to find out what I really wanted from my education, in what ways I would continue as a practitioner, how I liked to make work, what I wanted to make work about, and why it was relevant. Also, the internet is your oyster- research, research, research. See what exhibitions are happening in the cities you can't reach, look at video archives, read books and just make sure you enjoy whatever you do!



**Words:** Verity Wolstenholme

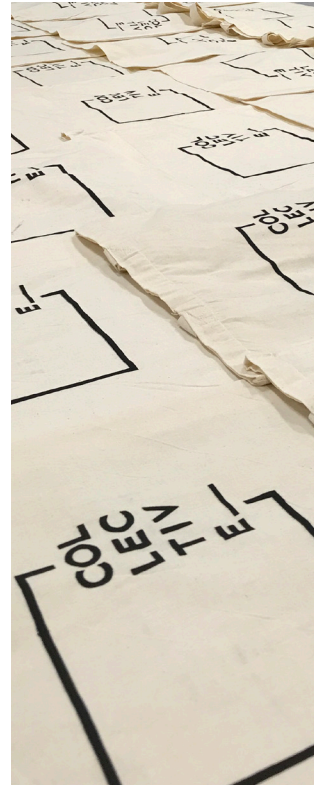
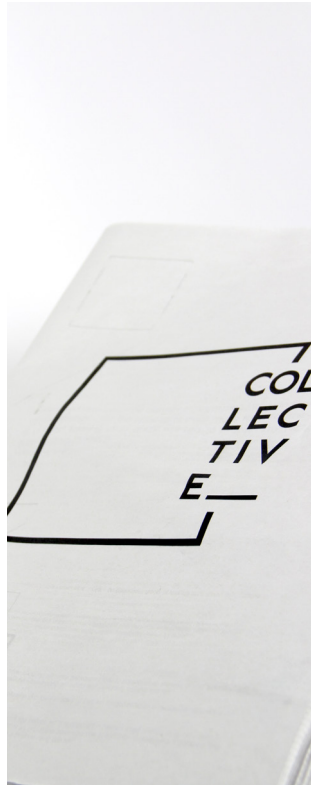
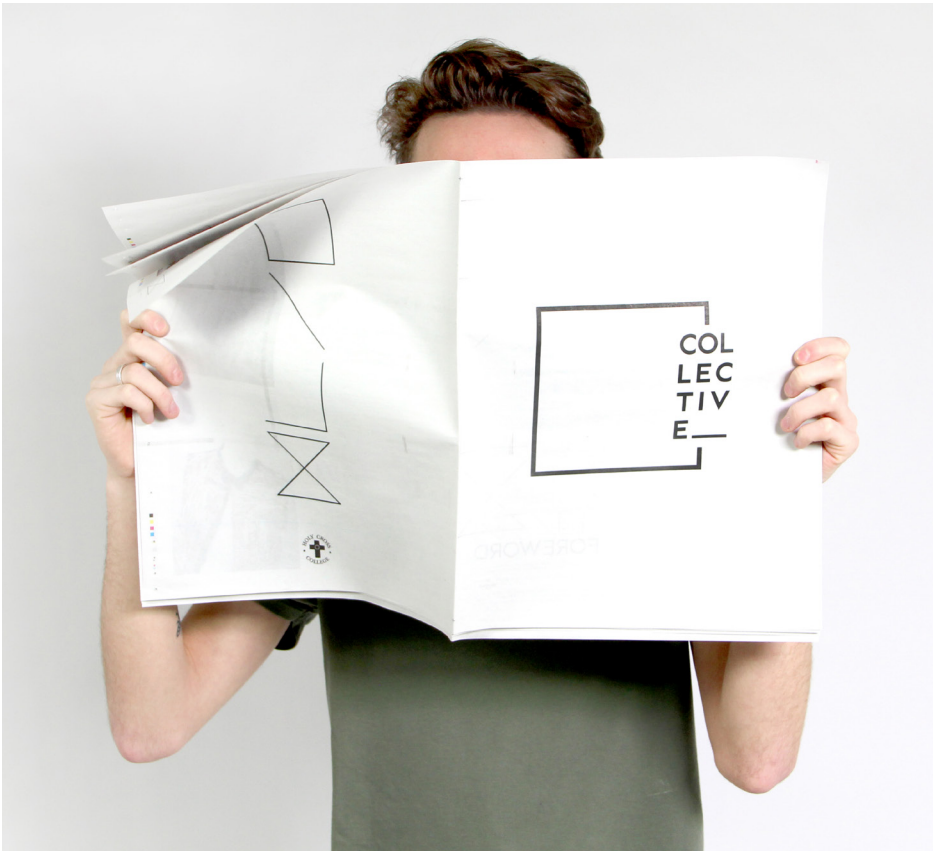
The rationale behind creating The Collective was fairly simple. We wanted to give people a sneak peak into the world of 'the crazy art people' and what exactly goes on on the 3rd floor of the Maureen Haverty building. We also wanted to blur the line between Art and other subjects, as the magazine demanded skills from all different areas. English students were particularly helpful when it came to writing passionate poems and articles. Maths and Business students took the lead in working out budgets and in pitching our 'business plan'. The Collective showed people that what we do isn't 'just art', as many of us have heard from our peers in the past.

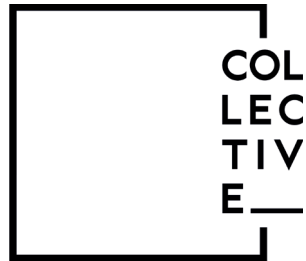
It all began with a handful of Art & Design students in A+D5, brainstorming potential names for a student-led magazine. 'Clique?' No, too exclusive. 'Bloc?' No, too weird. We needed something that would simply define us as a team. Hence, 'The Collective' was born.

The next couple of months consisted of frantic planning, writing, illustrating and contacting printers in an attempt to get the magazine together in time. Once the magazine arrived, we got to organising and advertising the launch party and print fair. This was a really exciting process as all our hard work that had been previously under wraps was finally ready to be shown to our fellow students and teachers.

The launch party was unlike anything that we'd seen at the college before. There were flashing lights, mannequins, LED screens and live music, creating a buzzing sense that change was in the air for the Holy Cross Art Department. No longer was our work obscure to other students. The Collective shouted, and people listened.

Over 700 copies of The Collective magazine were distributed in the 4 hours that the launch party ran. Dozens of prints and merchandise packs were sold, much to our surprise. It was a massive success, giving us the momentum to get started on the next issue. We hope that The Collective can continue to give autonomy to students whilst offering an in-depth look into the workings of our Art Department.





**The Collective**

**Evie Armstrong-Rand**

**Kristina Bartosova**

**Serena Branch**

**Euan Holmes**

**Lauren Kenyon**

**Katie Lockett**

**Niloufar Mehraban**

**Elizabeth Russell**

**Aoife Sansom**

**Will Taylor**

**Roanna Van Os**

**Greg Wallwork**

**Nicole Willis**

**Verity Wolstenholme**

**Katie Wood**

**A special thanks to...**

**Laura Watt**

**Alicia Eccleston**

**Laura Hopkinson**

**Izzy Coyle**

**Imogen Brady**

**Words:** Kristina Bartosova

There is always something so bittersweet about  
"goodbyes"...

Another year rolls past and before we even had  
time to properly say "hello", we must once again  
say "farewell". A new venture, new friends, new  
art.

But, one last hurrah is due.

We came into this year, with some kind of hope.  
The one that every fool bears at the sweet  
beginnings of things. It's that voice inside your  
head; "I will do so much work this year "I am  
going to go out, like, only once a month now. Can  
I finish all of my sketchbook before my deadline  
tomorrow? I'll try anyway".

So much innocence.

But, something has happened that we might've  
never dreamed to be a part of. To be a part of  
a family- a collective- of people that truly and  
willingly care to give up their Friday nights to  
their layouts, drawings, sketchbooks and final  
pieces.

But, the Collective has just got bigger.

We have agreed to take part in something  
larger than us. Something bigger than A-Levels,  
or deadlines or grades. Somehow, we were  
brought together to transfer pen-and-paper  
ideas into something you can touch and feel  
proud of.

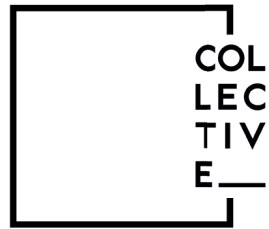
We have united the disciplines  
within the department.  
We have learnt a little something.  
We have made an exhibition. We have created  
a legacy.

Because that's what art and design is.

A few people in a room that at the end of the  
day create with a purpose, for a purpose.

So, "Goodbye" to the Collective,  
"Farewell" to all of the students,  
And a "Thank You" to the ever-willing and ever-  
patient A + D department.

Cheerful "hellos" to what is to come.



A+D

