

Consuming

Student: Samantha Breno

District: Private

School: Gonzaga Prep High School

Instructor: Kathleen Hall

Consuming

Medium: Graphite pencil, watercolor, colored pencil, and white gel pen

Artist Statement:

In this piece I wanted to explore what life is like for those experiencing audio and visual schizophrenia. This disorder can feel all consuming. Before beginning, I did some research on my own and talked with my father, who is a licensed mental health counselor. I used a photo of myself as a reference and then proceeded to add watercolor and colored pencil around the edges. I wanted to capture the vibrancy that the hallucinations can have, while also capturing the depth and portraying how scary that can be through the use of black. I then topped it off with statements in white gel pen. These are to symbolize what one who experiences audio hallucinations might hear, such as “Why are you stupid?” “They will get you” and “We are watching.” I titled this piece “Consuming” because at times this mental illness can cause a fuzziness between reality and the mind, and create a sense of being overtaken or consumed.

Description:

This piece features a girl in pencil staring up into the mass of her hallucinations. The hallucinations are depicted as vibrant, yet muddy and dark blobs who sometimes take on a face. On top of the jumble of watercolor and colored pencil are statements and words written in white gel pen flowing in all directions throughout the mess.

Status: Sell