

Curatorial Rational
IB DP Visual Art
Standard Level

People usually consider themselves as the protagonist in their own lives. In this body of work, I use the concept of function to explore the idea of egoism as self-interest versus selfishness and mutual benefit as it relates to intent. This exhibition allows the audience to not only think of some selfish people or behavior around them, but also it makes them question: “am I selfish?”, “is being selfish always a bad thing?”

The concept of function goes through my whole exhibit. It is inspired by Meret Oppenheim’s *Fur Breakfast*. In a way similar to Dada, I breakdown the function of chairs, toilet paper, and earphones. Combining the concept of function and egoism together suggests the goal of being self-interested is to turn everything “functional” and beneficial to themselves.

Also, the use of material takes a significant role in my body of work each inspired by Meret Oppenheim, Urs Fisher, and Catherine Murphy; for example, recomposing two chairs and juxtaposing clothing hooks on a female figure. The use of stamping on top of woodcut print suggests birds walking on the zebra. The use of different materials also helps me achieve the concept of function, because by placing some materials together can either lose or modify its function. And, I use 2 and 3 dimensional materials to form a formal contrast. Moreover, I contrast with strong vs. minimal detail subjects in both *Beggar’s Bowl* and *See! I Got Skinnier!*. And the video, it has a detailed view at the beginning and the end, which contrasts with the minimal part in the middle.

My technical skills develop in two main areas, woodcut and painting. Woodcut is more difficult that people think to make the cutting and the prints very exact and the same for every print. Painting of flesh in a technical way is also accomplished in two of these artworks.

I explore a number of strategies for expression. In *Beggar's Bowl*, I invite viewers to hang clothes on hooks to contextualize meaning. Subject recognition is manipulated in *Peck for Me Peck for You* and *You Heard What I Heard*. In *See! I Got Skinner!* I use both the real and painted toilet paper roll cores for added emphasis of the result of selfish action. The normal function of earphones is replaced with a new function, to deflect unwanted attention.

Word Count: 390