

Sophie Budd
2021
Sophie Budd Self Portrait

To generate ideas for this work, I asked a few people I know to describe me and the things I like. I also took some time to think for myself what I like and who I am. The first step in the process of creating this work was to draw the contour of my face with vine charcoal. I started with my face shape, then added my facial features. Once I finished the contour of my face, I drew the contour of my neck, hair, and finally my shoulders and chest. Once I had finished the contour, I added in details to show my personality based on the ideas I had come up with before starting with the drawing. This included the fairy wings and ears. I first added this with the vine charcoal. When the contour of everything was complete, I started to add color with chalk pastels. After finishing with the chalk pastel on my face, body, and wings, I filled in the background with purple. Lastly, I added the collage elements, including glitter, rhinestones, beads, yarn, and paper scraps, then added marker and pen drawings onto the paper scraps.

I believe my use of space is a strength in this piece. Instead of only having negative space around the drawing of myself, I included the wings and paper scraps to create more unique areas of negative space. I also believe texture is a strength in this piece because I added many three-dimensional collage elements. I think one of my weaknesses in this piece is unity. After adding the paper scraps, I realized that they do not agree with the rest of the work as well as I had thought they would. Another weakness shown in this piece is value. I do not have a wide range of values within this piece and there are areas I could have included darker values.

This work is special to me because I struggle with self image and seeing myself the way others see me. Creating a self portrait was a challenge for this reason, but it has helped me see myself from more of an outsider point of view rather than my own critical view. A large inspiration for the fantasy element of this piece was artist James Browne, who creates many works with fairies and other fantasy pieces.

A-S 130 Drawing
Chelsea Clarke