

A full-page background image showing two acrobats performing a stunt over a body of water. A vertical white pole is positioned in the water. One acrobat, wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt and dark shorts, is hanging from the pole with their legs. The second acrobat, wearing a white tank top and blue shorts, is positioned below the first, holding onto their legs. The background is a dramatic, cloudy sky.

Top Arts 2018

VCE focus questions
and folio tips

Top Arts focus questions

Top Arts, part of the VCAA Season of Excellence, showcases the exceptional work of students who have completed Art or Studio Arts as part of their Victorian Certificate of Education. We encourage you to work your way through the following focus questions to start putting what you have learnt into practice. Also included in this booklet are some handy tips to get your folio ready for university submission.

Consider the characteristics of the exhibition space (light, space, sound, arrangement of works). How do these factors affect the audience's experience of the space?

What are the interactive elements of the exhibition? How do these change the audience's experience of the exhibition?

Choose an artwork that appeals to you (title of the work and name of the artist). What mediums have been used and how have the materials and techniques been used to reinforce the ideas and concepts presented in the work.

Artist:

Title:

Chose a different artwork in the exhibition.

VCE Art students, discuss the work using an analytical framework of your choice (contemporary, cultural, personal or structural).

VCE Studio Arts students, what considerations have been given to display this work (plinths, lighting, hanging, security presence, audience experience)?

Artist:

Title:

Alexandra Syme
Suburban landscape 2017 (detail)
Woodleigh School
Langwarrin South
© Alexandra Syme



Sienna Espie
Light and contrast – Human form 2017 (detail)
Padua College
Mornington
© Sienna Espie

Consider the exhibition as a whole. Are there any themes that students have explored that you find particularly unique? What themes seem popular amongst students in this year's exhibition?

Pick a folio and describe how the student has used inspiration to inform the development of their concept.





Lily Callanan
What was 2017 (detail)
 Victorian College of the Arts
 Secondary School
 Southbank
 © Lily Callanan

Pick a folio and comment on how the student has made decisions about the materials and techniques they develop.

VCE Art students, how does the student use the analytical frameworks in their annotations on materials?

VCE Studio Arts students, consider how the student has made decisions as expressed in their potential directions.

Artist:

What inspiration have you gained from the artworks and folios? Comment on new ideas, mediums or techniques you plan to explore over the year.

A mannequin torso is shown from the chest up, wearing a white garment. The garment is covered in a dense, black and red line drawing pattern. The pattern consists of numerous stylized faces, eyes, and lips, some of which are outlined in red. The mannequin's head is a plain white neck. The background is a solid light gray.

Karina de Vries-Apted
Community 2017 (detail)
Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar School
Ivanhoe
© Karina de Vries-Apted

'My course at Deakin helped my career by giving me the skills and craft to think beyond boundaries and encourage my creative thinking as a powerful source of problem solving. I can work with and around limitation, but mostly I have an in-depth understanding of the world and how it can be effected.'

Erin Dickinson

Bachelor of Creative Arts (Visual Arts) graduate,
Deakin University
Practising Artist



Folio preparation

Did you know most tertiary education providers require you to submit a folio of your work if you are applying to study a creative arts or design course? It is a good idea to start thinking about this during your VCE studies and develop a folio of work that you can use as part of your university submission.

What is a folio?

A folio is a collection of your personal work. It gives an insight into your creative thinking processes and the meaning behind your work. It showcases your passions, technical skills and diversity as an artist.

What artforms interest you?

E.g. hand drawings, computer aided drawings, paintings, graphic design, photographs, digital images, models, sculptures, video, scripting, short stories, 2D and 3D Flash animation.

What inspires you?

Investigate what inspires you. Select ideas, materials and techniques and source good examples of your favourite artists, photographers or designers. Jot down some of your inspiration.

How can you prepare your folio?

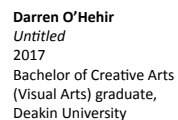
Research your interest areas. Search far and wide. Explore galleries and museums, books or magazines, watch films and live performances, take photos or discover online platforms. Brainstorm your ideas:



Rachel Hanlon
Hello Machine 201
Bachelor of Creative Arts
(Visual Arts) graduate,
Deakin University



Melissa Smith
Light Study 0717
Bachelor of Creative Arts
(Photography) graduate,
Deakin University



Your folio should be a true reflection of you and the journey you have taken to get to this point. Explain the meaning behind your work to provide purpose and context. Your folio doesn't need to contain masterpieces, but reveal a process that reflects imagination, curiosity and passion. Jot down some thoughts.

[illegible][illegible]

Jason Smith
Urbanscape
2017
Bachelor of Creative Arts (Photography) graduate,
Deakin University

Include work in your folio that excites and inspires you.



Where to from here?

Develop your ideas and showcase your curiosity. Show the creative process, ask questions about your work and collaborate with others.

Sketch here

Next steps

Search for opportunities to learn more. Participate in workshops, listen to others and discover your future possibilities.

Pencil in 11 September at Deakin's Melbourne Burwood Campus or 12 September at Deakin's Geelong Waterfront Campus for our Creative Arts Exploration Evening.

To find out more about Deakin's courses in creative arts and the folio entry requirements, attend one of our Creative Arts Folio exploration evening. Visit deakin.edu.au/create to find out more.

Notes



This publication was created by Deakin University.
A Major Partner of NGV exhibition, Top Arts 2018.

Cover artwork:
Thomas Emerson
Acrobatic series 2017 (detail)
St Kevin's College
Toorak
© Thomas Emerson

Deakin University Provider Code: 00113B