

The Blue Green

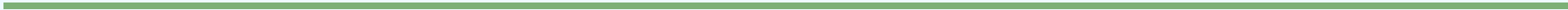
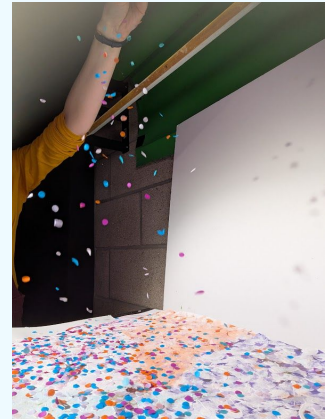
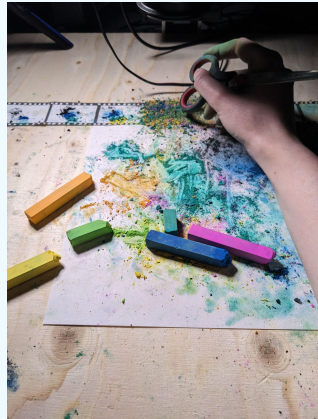
A conversation with seagrass

Some Things About Me

Name: Violet-Finn Blackstaffe

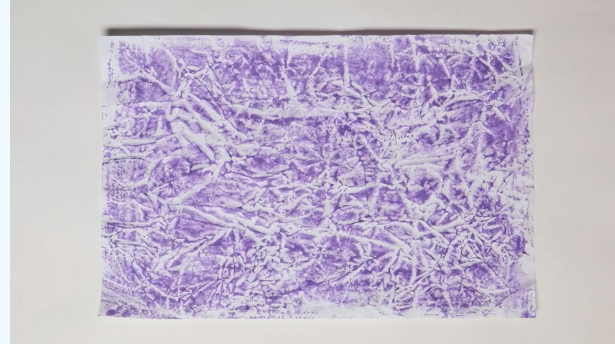
Course: BA Animation - Experimental Pathway

Specialism: Stop Motion/Handmade/Lens-based/Mixed Media Animation



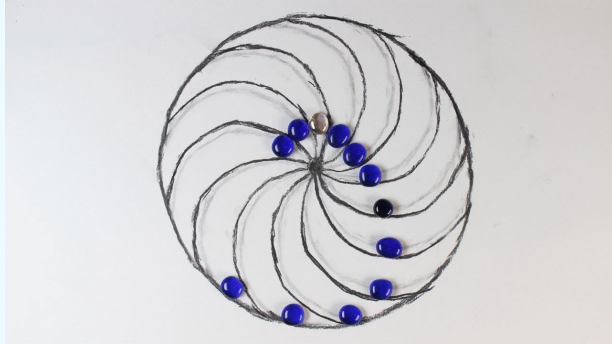
Some Things About My Animation Practice

My work is often abstract or focused on small details, self-referential, and led by my interests in movement and materiality.



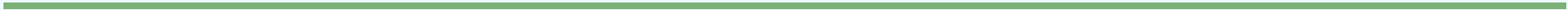
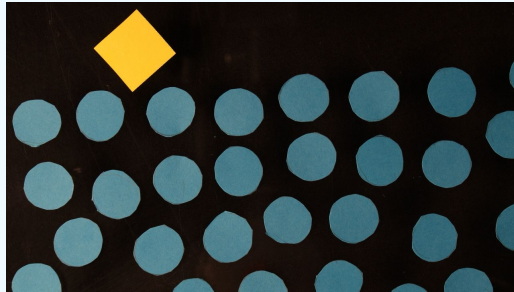
Some Things About My Animation Practice

I love playing and experimenting with different materials and techniques, creating new challenges for myself, and letting the work grow organically.



Some Things About My Animation Practice

I keep coming back to water.



The Blue Green

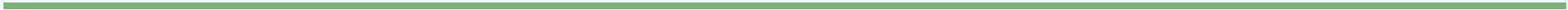
A research-through-practice project about marine conservation and creative process, inspired by seagrass.

- An investigation into building an ocean-friendly creative practice
 - Create a series of animation tests made with ocean-friendly and sustainable materials
 - Document and reflect on the process
 - Build a library of ocean-friendly ways of making art for personal reference and to share with others
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Why Seagrass?

- The ocean is a huge carbon sink
 - While covering only 0.1-0.2% of the ocean floor, seagrass absorbs 10-18% of this carbon
 - It also provides food and shelter for many marine species, supporting biodiversity
 - Several human factors threaten the health and coverage of seagrass, e.g.
 - Chemical and plastic pollution
 - Physical disturbance
 - Disease exacerbated by rising sea temperatures
-

Why Seagrass?



Part 1 - Secondary Research

Jan		Feb				March					April						
19th	26th	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	30th	6th	13th	20th	24th			
Secondary research																	
Seagrass and ocean pollution, materials and practices																	
Primary research																	
Substack																	
Test 1			Test 2			Test 3			Test 4			Test 5			Test 6		
												Final film					
															Deadline		

Researching seagrass and its role in the ocean, ocean pollution and marine conservation

Researching different materials and their risks

Collecting visual references of seagrass and its inhabitants

What substances are damaging to seagrass and the ocean?

What art materials do I normally use that contribute to this?

What can I use instead?

Part 2 - Primary Research: Animations Tests

Creating a series of tests/short animations using ocean-friendly materials.

Exploring images and themes inspired by my research on seagrass, ocean pollution and marine conservation

- Materials free from heavy metals
 - Plastic-free materials/alternatives
 - Recycled materials
 - Homemade paints and pastels
 - Homemade paper
 - Natural dyes, paints and inks
 - Natural sculpting materials e.g clay, wax, wood, cork
 - Natural objects e.g. leaves, pebbles, twigs, sand
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First Test

Oil Paint on Glass

'Green Earth' pigment + walnut oil

Glass panel instead of perspex

Paper background dyed with blue food colouring



Part 3 - Primary Research/Delivery: Substack Blog

Documenting and reflecting on the process as I go.

Discussing the research I did, how I made the animations, what problems came up, what I enjoyed etc

Sharing animations, images and behind-the-scenes videos

What are these materials like to work with? Are the outcomes different?

How does the extra time spent preparing them affect the process for me?

How difficult is it to find ocean-friendly materials?

What extra costs are involved? How does this affect my ability to integrate these alternatives into my normal practice?

Part 4 - Final Film

Create a final documentary-style film of collected animations and behind-the-scenes footage as a visual summary and reflection on the experience.

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												Final film					
															Deadline		

Thank you for listening!

Selected References

Marine Conservation Institute: <https://marine-conservation.org/>

Marine Conservation Society: <https://www.mcsuk.org/>

Ocean Conservation Trust: <https://oceanconservationtrust.org/>

How 'Green' is your Green Watercolour?: <https://www.lostincolours.com/green-watercolor/>

Spectacular Seagrass: <https://www.somersetwildlife.org/seagrass-solutions>

Stop Ocean Poison: <https://www.mcsuk.org/what-you-can-do/campaigns/stop-ocean-poison/>

Sustainable Artwork: Eco-Friendly Techniques for Conscious Creators: <https://vegesent.com/>

The Ocean: A Carbon Sink: <https://ocean-climate.org/>

What is Paint Made Of?: <https://www.dunnedwards.com/pros/blog/whats-in-your-paint/>
