Body of Work

Photography

Low Band 6

Title:

Fly...... in the Face of
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On what terms should we consider the body of work?
What is the student trying to do?
What is the effect of the body of work on us?

This extensive series of black and white photographs depicts individual children in various mid-air poses; jumping, floating and dancing in outdoor settings and in the studio. An exploration of the joys of innocence, this body of work captures the energy and positive spirit of children through a proficient understanding of studio techniques. The frozen action of the various poses gives the series freshness and tension. Some of the works invoke an ephemeral quality, which suggests mystery and wonderment.

Explanation

In what ways are conceptual and material practice represented?

More than just ‘snaps’, these images bring out the individual personalities of the children which indicates the student’s sensitivity. This rapport between photographer and subject is faithful to the traditions of studio photography.

The series displays refinement and sensitivity through a tight selection of darkroom techniques such as tonal dropouts, bas-relief and glass overlays that are a counterpoint to the well printed traditional photograph. The use of the full grey scale from black to white in a section of the body of work is complemented by the sharp contrast of the remainder of the works. A variety of carefully arranged angles of view enhance the action of the poses.

Judgement

How does the student’s conceptual and material practice compare to the descriptive statements in the marking guidelines?

The series encapsulates the buoyancy and enthusiasm of youth through well-managed and sustained techniques. The immediacy of the subjects and the poses in the majority of the works are anchored in a dynamic, realistic style, whilst a couple of the works journey into the surreal adding another dimension to this otherwise straightforward theme. Sound darkroom practices are evident throughout the diverse range images.
PHOTOGRAPHY

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