

No part of the candidate's evidence in this exemplar material may be presented in an external assessment for the purpose of gaining an NZQA qualification or award.



Level 3 Visual Arts 2023

91456 Produce a systematic body of work that integrates conventions and regenerates ideas within painting practice

EXEMPLAR

Excellence

TOTAL E



Excellence

Subject: Visual Arts – Painting

Standard: 91456

Marker commentary

At Excellence, this submission presents an example of a quiet yet impressive study of the landscape of rural Aotearoa New Zealand. This proposition effectively develops and refines a range of ideas and conventions. The candidate's ability to synthesise an in-depth study of light and atmosphere upon the land in individual paintings with fluency is superb.

The landscape should be a common subject matter for candidates in this examination, based on the history of landscape in Aotearoa New Zealand painting as a genre. It is important that we identify examples such as this, where the proposition is unpacked in such an understated yet sophisticated way through a sustained exploration of formal concerns. Here, in relation to the land, light, colour, shadow, space, and a sense of time passing, there is plenty of evidence for the depth of ideas needed to sustain a body of work at Excellence.

This candidate clearly communicates a strong emotional connection to this landscape based on their own genuine experience of this environment. Another key to success at this level is the clear ability to communicate their learning with a superb board layout. It is critically edited and ordered throughout.

Panel 1 deals with highly finished individual pieces that form coherent links between all phases that appear to flow into each other. No work seems superfluous, and all are reflected upon or used to inform later decisions. Colour on this panel supports a narrative using light to define the beginning of the day. In the journey from the high hills to the coast, light, shadow, monumental forms, and space are explored through these different compositions.

The second panel illustrates subtle lighting shifts as well as consistently different compositions, exploring the layering of the land. The larger work in the middle of the panel is important for the sense of deep space being explored as well as the colour palette shift expanded upon in the last panel. All these works add to a continued solid exploration of the land in relation to changing light conditions.

A major strength of this portfolio is the narrative reflected in this sense of a journey through the land. The final panel embraces the exploration of the atmospheric mood with the sky and clouds and light signalling the end of the day. Diverse influences from European Romanticism or Turner alongside the rich Aotearoa New Zealand landscape history are implied with the complex arrangements in each work. The outstanding fluency across the entire performance and ample evidence of the critical thinking required in exploring such a range of options ensures it meets criteria for Excellence.