

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.



Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa  
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

## Level 2 Visual Arts 2025

**91321 Produce a body of work to show understanding of art-making conventions and ideas within painting**

# EXEMPLAR

**Excellence**

**TOTAL E**



## Excellence

**Subject:** Visual Arts – Painting

**Standard:** 91321

### Marker commentary

The candidate produced a coherent and conceptually resolved body of work exploring the theme of the Second World War between the USA and Japan, conflict, and the lasting human and environmental effects resulting from nuclear warfare. The paintings develop visual ideas systematically across the panels, moving from documentary-style depictions of wartime events to increasingly abstract and symbolic interpretations.

This portfolio was verified as placed in the Excellence grade range, clearly fulfilling the criteria by:

- critically selecting individual, related works to form series and sequences; and clarifying and regenerating conceptual ideas within the art making process with reference to established art practice and conventions
- demonstrating a strong understanding of painting conventions, combining realist representation with geometric abstraction to communicate both the physical and psychological impact of war
- providing clear evidence of technical facility in the confident handling of tone, composition, and pictorial depth; and in the use of repetition, contrast, and colour to unify the series and convey emotion and tension
- providing an integration of military imagery: soldiers, planes, ships, and explosions, with fractured compositions, shows an awareness of Cubist and Futurist design principles, drawing influence from artists such as Giorgio de Chirico, Paul Nash and Gino Severini; the narrative and symbolic approach aligns with Peter McIntyre's war paintings and the moral, structural sensibility of Colin McCahon's work.

Overall, the candidate demonstrated a systematic exploration and regeneration of ideas, and an assured understanding of how painting conventions can be manipulated to express complex concepts, achieving at Level 7 of the New Zealand Arts Curriculum, consistent with the Excellence criteria.