

GCSE Art @ Christ's College



What does it involve?

2 Coursework Projects – 60% of your final grade

Development tasks and a final piece
(Each is roughly a term and a half)

Exam Preparation – 40% of your final grade

Approx. 1 term of development then a 10 hour final exam for
the final piece

Begins Jan of Year 11, exam is around end of May

What sort of thing will I do?

Each project has its own sketchbook with lots of research, development ideas, techniques and ideas.

At the end of each project you will produce a final piece, the next few slides are some examples of these.....





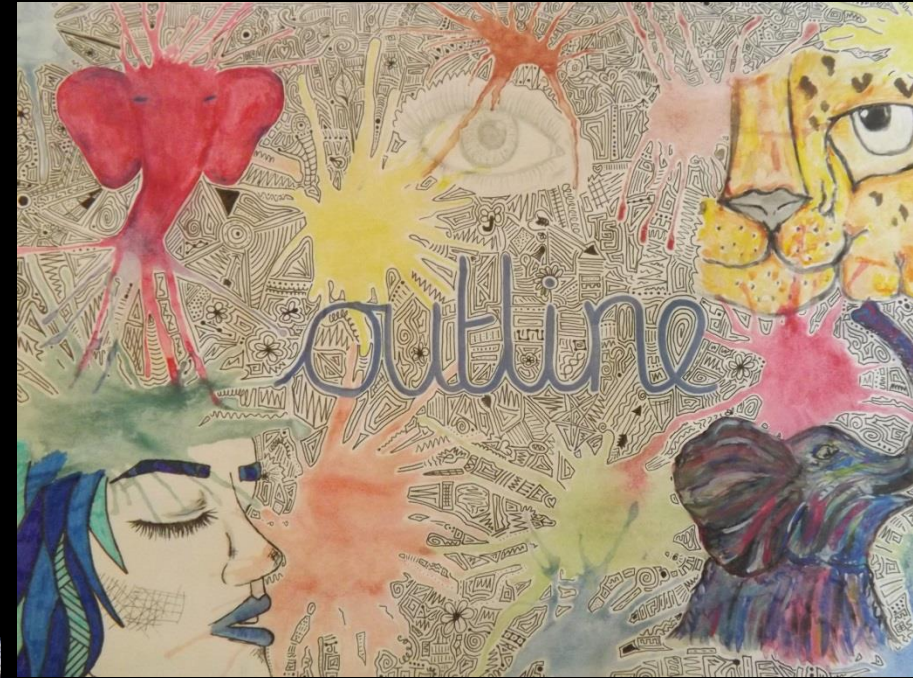












**Exam
Preparation**

Exam Work

In the January of Year 11 AQA release the exam paper and you spend until the Exam in May developing, researching and experimenting with ideas before you complete your final piece in the 10 hour exam.

Don't worry, this is done in the Art rooms over 2 days with break and lunch as normal!









GCSE Photography @ Christ's College



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Picture

The content of this image is a range of flowers and plants which fill most of the frame. The plants are laid out in a way that you can see them all separately, without being blocked. The bottom half of the flowers are cropped out however the top half is all in frame. The colours shown in the image are very vibrant. Colours such as yellow, purple, pink and green all stand out against the plain black background. This makes them pop out as if they were 3-D. There is some empty space in the image where it is just black but I think this is very effective.

Process

From what I can see, I think that the photographer has used a scanner in order to get the image so crisp and detailed, as well as having a clean background. The photographer has definitely arranged the flowers beforehand in order to get them all into frame or into vision. I believe this image is digital and it may have had some digital manipulation used in order to bring out the colours or bring things into focus. The photographer might have used post-production software such as Photoshop to achieve this.

Interpret

In my opinion, I don't believe there is a message that is trying to be conveyed because I think it is used for more scientific or practical purposes such as research. Some may argue that its aim is more an artistic expression. I think the intended audience of this image would be mostly people interested in horticulture or interesting photography. This photo can be appreciated even if you don't know much about plants therefore it can be enjoyed by a wider audience. Personally, this image makes me feel content because there is more of a positive mood than a negative one.

Evaluate

This image has inspired me because I like the use of a scanner to get such a clear and precise picture. In my own work, I will try to use a similar method to photograph other plants or flowers.



Craig Cramer is a photographer who specialises in horticulture and gardening. His pictures are mostly of plants or flora. At the website of Cornell University, Craig says about himself: 'I'm the communications specialist in the School of Integrative Plant Science who specializes in nothing. Craig manages numerous websites, writes articles, blogs, shoots photos and videos and anything else necessary to get the word out about

his research. He runs his own personal blog called Ellis Hollow where he has posted over 27 pages of bloom day scans with additional captions. Craig's work goes back to 2005. His vlog shows all year long seasons in his garden, beautiful floral mandalas and quotes about him struggling with his scanners. In 2005, A New York Times article introduced Craig to the scanned flower art technique. This is where you arrange flowers on a flatbed scanner; the resulting prints look like pressed-flower arrangements with amazing vibrant colours and 3-D effects.





Craig Cramer Style Scans

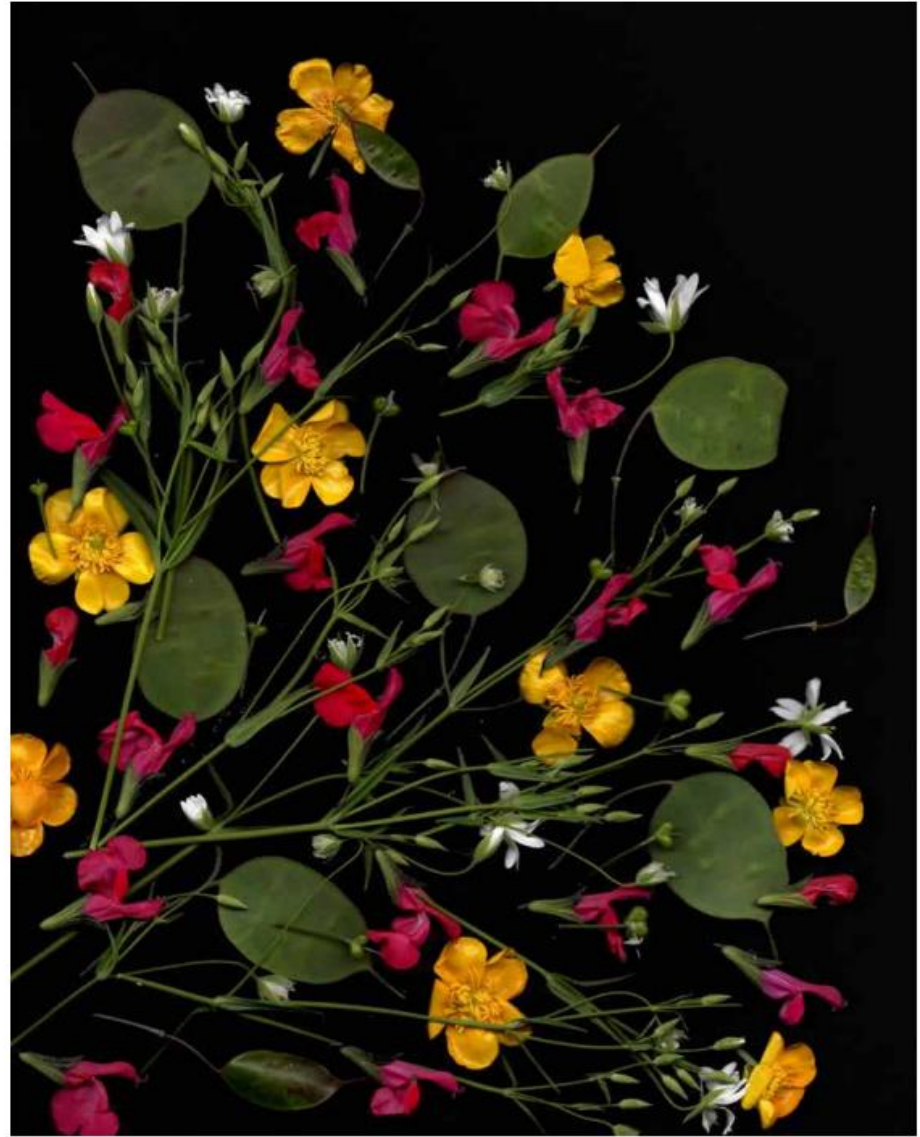
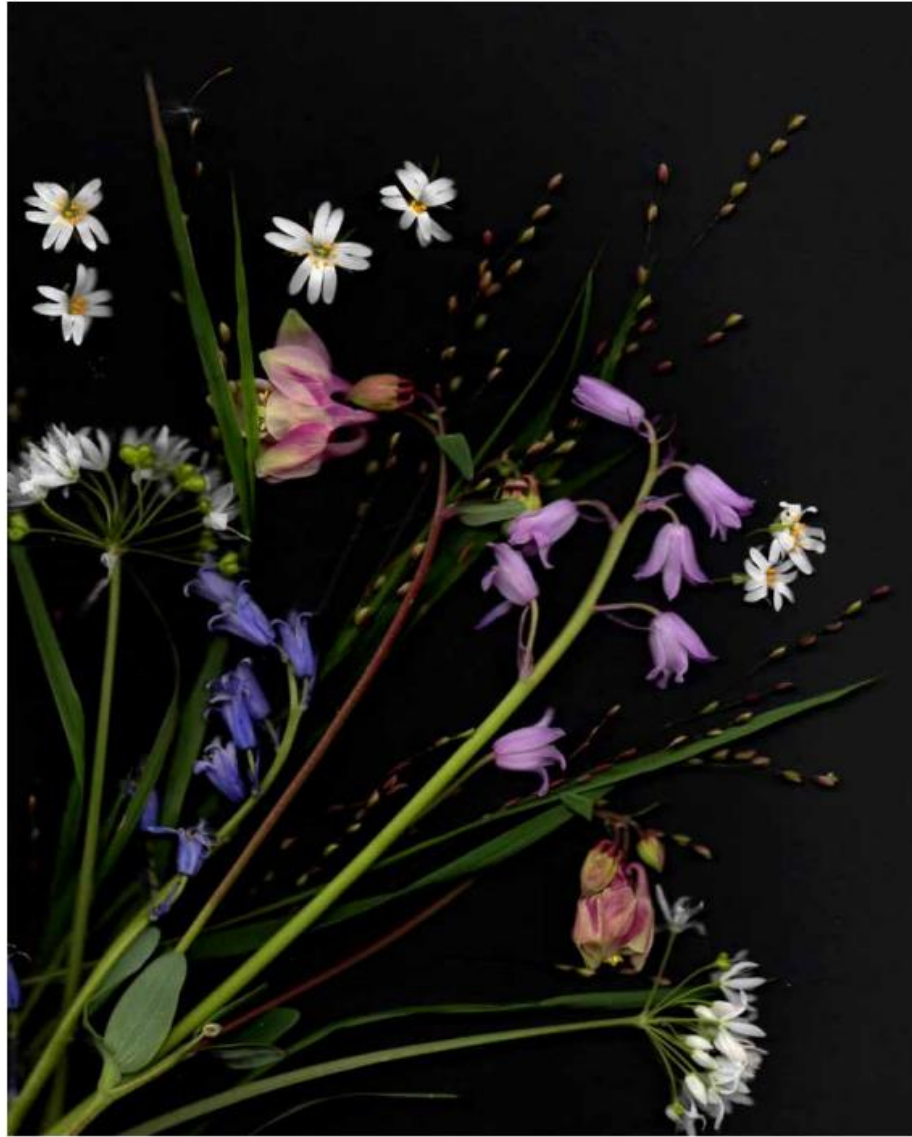
Whilst I was on a dog walk with my family, I decided I would pick up some flowers and plants to use for this project. I was mostly looking out for ones with interesting colours and shapes. One of the plants I picked out had horizontal stripes which I thought was really cool. I made sure that I had a variety of coloured flowers, so I picked up some buttercups, wild garlic, red salvia and some bluebells. Some of the plants I picked had interesting forms as they curled and twisted like the fern, for example. When I got home, I laid out all the plants and flowers in groups so that I could then decide which ones I wanted to use. I used these to create really interesting layouts when I scanned them.

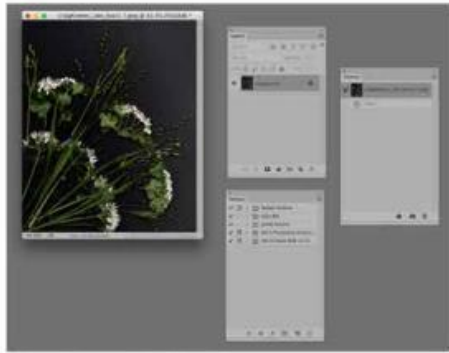


For this kaleidoscope task, I had to scan in some plants that I had arranged. I placed the plants/flowers to be sprouting from the bottom left corner and I made sure I had created different shapes and styles, as well as using a range of different items. When scanning them in, I placed a piece of black card behind them in order to give them a black background. In between scans I made sure to clean the glass from pollen so that I could keep each image sharp.

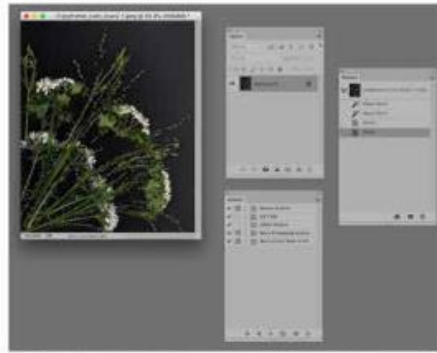




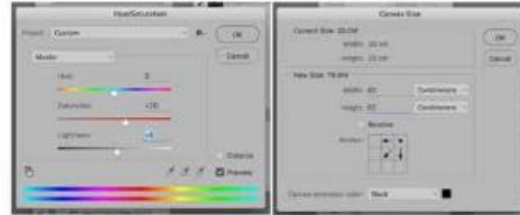




Open image in photoshop



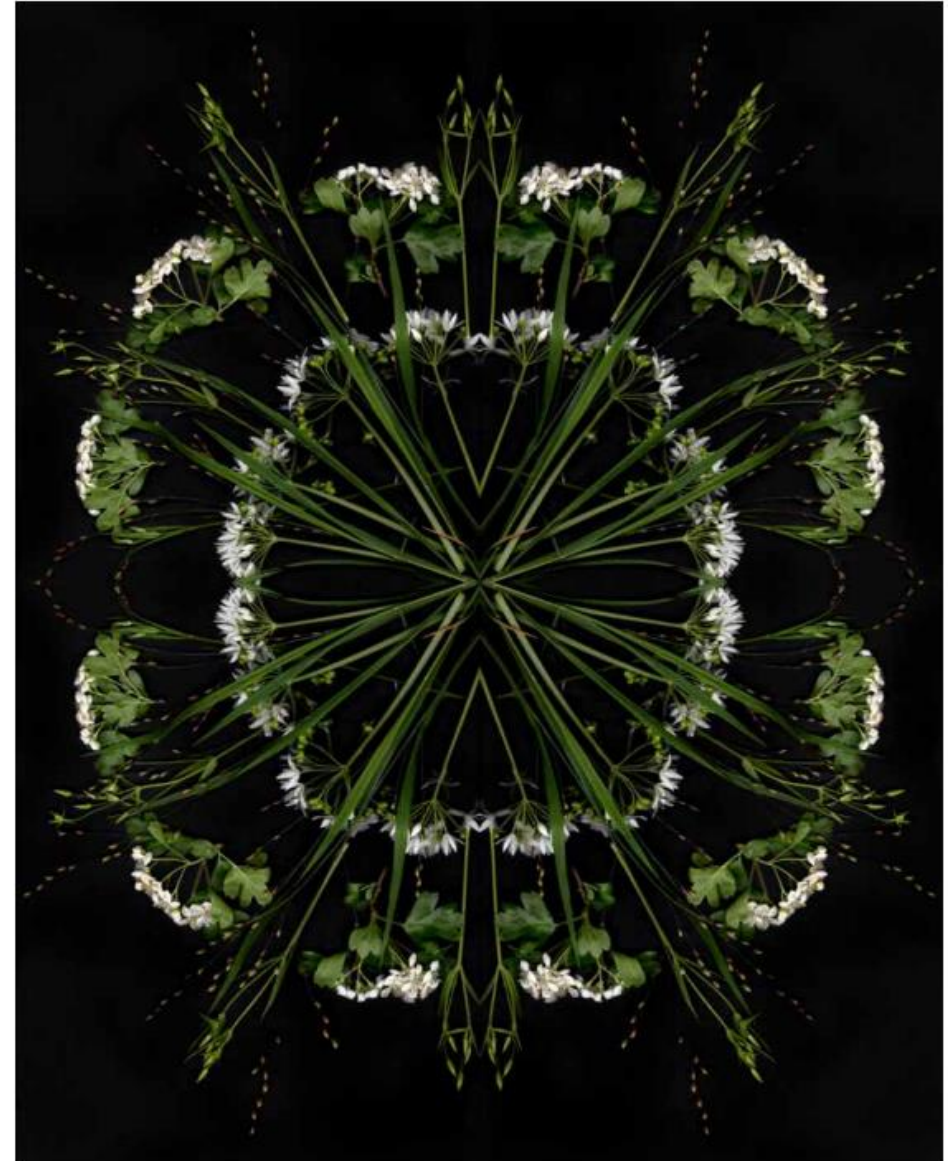
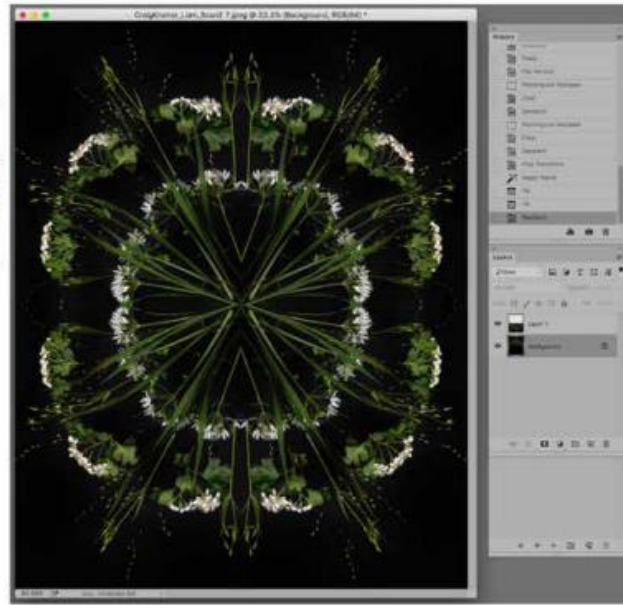
Select background area using magic wand

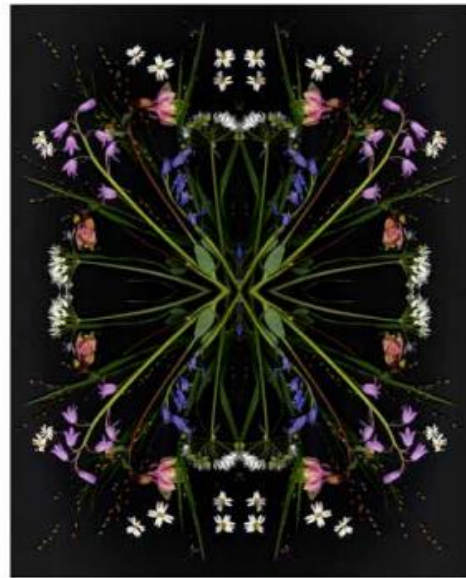


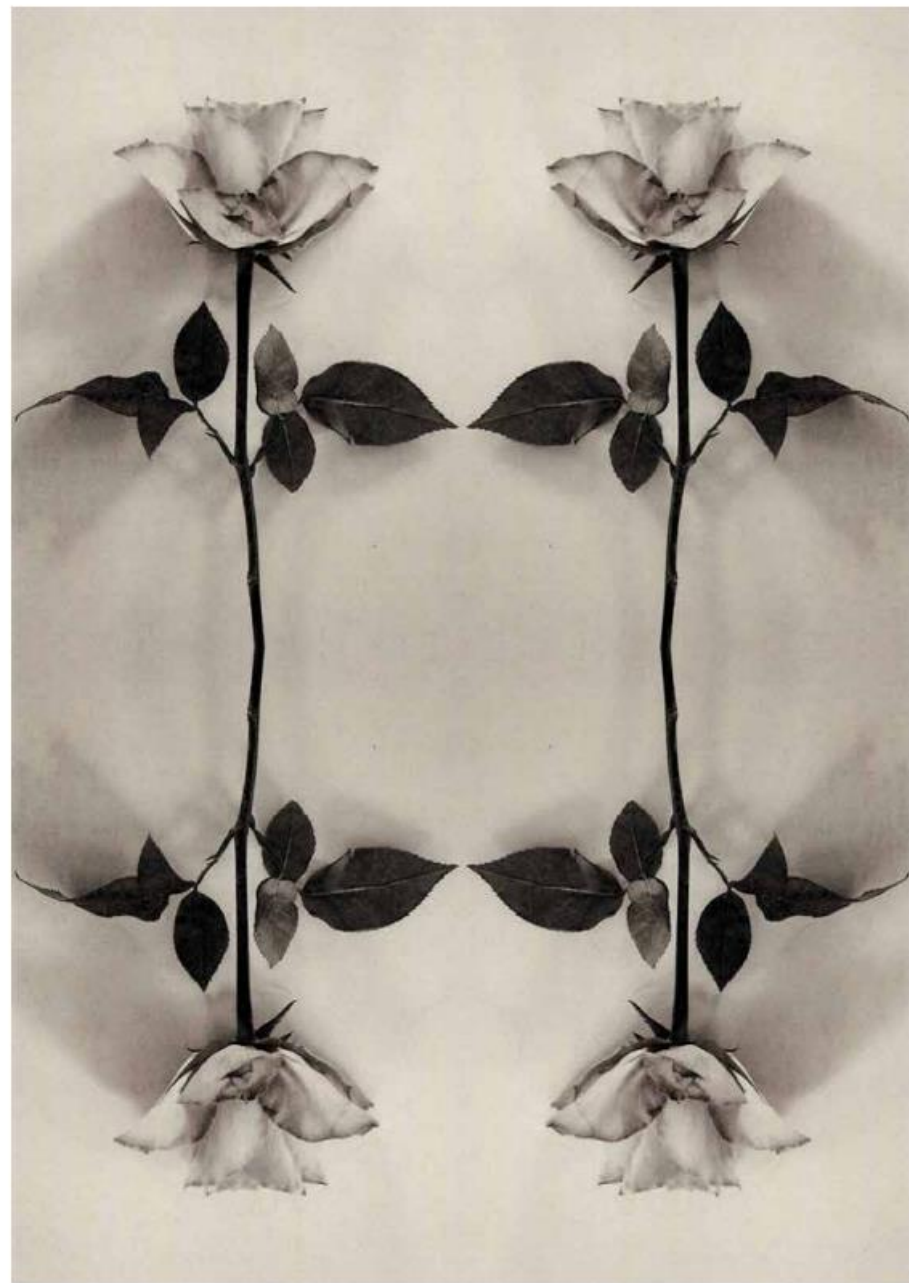
Using curves, adjust the black, and then adjust the saturation & lightness. Then resize the canvas.



Using Transform under Edit, flip the image horizontally and then vertically, and align the edges.







Photoshop

We use Photoshop a lot to edit and digitally manipulate photos



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