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MA FINE ART DIGITAL

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Current research issue - Waiting: Hypnotic Repetition

Through my projects I feel that I discover my inner fears, longings and re-evaluate my uncertainties. My work seems to be an attempt to explore and question by metaphorical presentation my response to the hidden truths of the world. The essence of the value of these works is in their inherent meaning and an atmosphere, which manifests itself in the dusk of the space portrayed, thus the light may appear, where the hue of colour fulfils clarity and sounds with harmonious melody.

I am a fine art painter with 30 years of experience. My current research project questions responses from people, who are suspended in the vacuum hypnotic repetition. I have travelled the world interviewing and recording individuals, who genuinely struggle with their existence.

The most significant pieces are of a Haitian girl, who is unaware of her Polish heritage and a Thai masseur, who is entrapped by lockdown. She dreams about being able to return to 17-hour long shifts in a parlour. Others include a Burmese captain, who is dying from skin cancer. He is in charge of a ferry transporting illegal workers between Ranong in Thailand and Kawthoung in Myanmar.

Finally, a portrait of Punhane, who is a young guide in Baku, Azerbaijan. Her name, in Azeri, means secret. In fear for her life, she hides her Armenian origin.

I work full time as a programme co-ordinator for Art & Design at a large institution offering a broad range of FE and HE qualifications.

I am also an external examiner for the UAL and AQA.

- A link to your website or online portfolio

<https://hypnoticrepetition.com/>

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/fQ9VytzHNpWq9/>

<https://www.instagram.com/pavszymanski/?hl=en>

<https://www.behance.net/pavszymanski>

1. One-Legged Pool Player

The One-Legged Player is totally on the task. Her appearance looks frivolous and theatrical to distract from her determination and the fact that she cannot afford to miss any shots. Her outwards image portrays glamour and fame, but the reality is diametrically different.

The One-Legged Player is frozen in a stretched position, suspended in the vacuum of repetition. Every shot is executed in an identical posed pose in a hope to attract attention and increase the stakes, hence maximise profits.

I am hesitant to come to conclusions that there is something repulsive about it. The first impressions of wonder and curiosity are replaced with laughter and astonishment.

The performance continues regardless.

<https://wordpress.com/post/pavszymanskiart.wordpress.com/2120>

Size: (w) 116cm; (h) 184cm

Mixed media on canvas.

2020



2. Coach to Myiek

This piece portrays a coach driver. He is preparing to leave Kawthoung for a 20-hour long journey to Myiek. The road is terrible and unpredictable. His old coach must be in a top condition before the passengers are allowed to board.

The driver looks very tired and substantially overweight. He spends his life driving his coach between those two distant cities in Myanmar.

<https://wordpress.com/post/pavszymanskiart.wordpress.com/2072>

Size: (w) 60cm; (h) 80cm

Mixed media on board

2020



3. Burmese Captain

This work portrays a Burmese captain in charge of a long boat. His job is to transport people and cargo from Ranong in Thailand to Kawthoung at the furthest southern point of Myanmar. His main clientele are poor illegal workers from Burma trying to earn a few baht in Thailand.

Following a long conversation with him, I become one of his passengers. To maximise income, he accepts as many people as possible. He even travels on the very front of the boat to save valuable space. This place is very uncomfortable and rocky. He is also fully exposed there to the power of the tropical sun. He tries to get some relief from the burning heat by hiding under a colourful umbrella.

The image is very clashing in colour - very kitsch. This is further enhanced by his crude and cramped body position. His ankle reveals a massive tumour.

There is a gigantic growth on his leg, perhaps caused by prolonged exposure to the sun and continued contact with polluted water in the port. My creative intention was to portray him in his usual setting, while crossing the same water many times every day.

The focus is on him. The beautiful surroundings no longer matter. He cannot see the landscape. He is trapped in his daily routine.

The colour of his shirt blends in with the orange stripes of paint on the boat. His umbrella is feminine and looks absolutely ridiculous.

<https://wordpress.com/post/pavszymanskiart.wordpress.com/1884>

Size: (w) 60cm; (h) 85cm

Mixed media on marine matt

2020



4. Three Monks Begging

This new piece portrays three Burmese monks taking a break from their money collecting duties, while entertaining themselves with a large group of pigeons.

In the area, there were large numbers of child monks present. Most of their days are spend extorting large amounts of cash from the hard working, fearful and deeply religious market community.

They are immaculately dressed in pink robes and sarongs. Simultaneously, they walk bare foot to project an image of poverty and humbleness.

However, the truth is different. They have got daily targets to fill their metals trays with a mixture of coins and bank notes to satisfy the needs and expectations of their superiors.

<https://pavszymanskiart.wordpress.com/2019/12/02/three-monks-new-gif/>

Size: (w) 168cm; (h) 85cm Mixed media on unprimed canvas, 2020



5. Disabled Palenque

This is a portrait of a young Haitian girl called Palenque. She is heavily disabled. Her arms are distorted and twisted. She is in constant pain.

Today, she is celebrating her 16th birthday. Her eyes are full of joy and spark of life, and she smiles beautifully.

She is totally overwhelmed by an unexpected present from a stranger - a mobile phone.

Size: (w) 60cm; (h) 85cm

mixed media on board

2019



6. Haitian Girl with Butterflies

This is a portrait of a young, beautiful and idyllic-looking Haitian girl playing with butterflies. I met her during my travels through. She is surrounded by poverty - most local families survive on less than 1\$ per day.

She is also totally oblivious of her origin.

She does not understand, why she is consistently ostracised and bullied. Her skin is white and her eyes are baby blue. She definitively stands out!

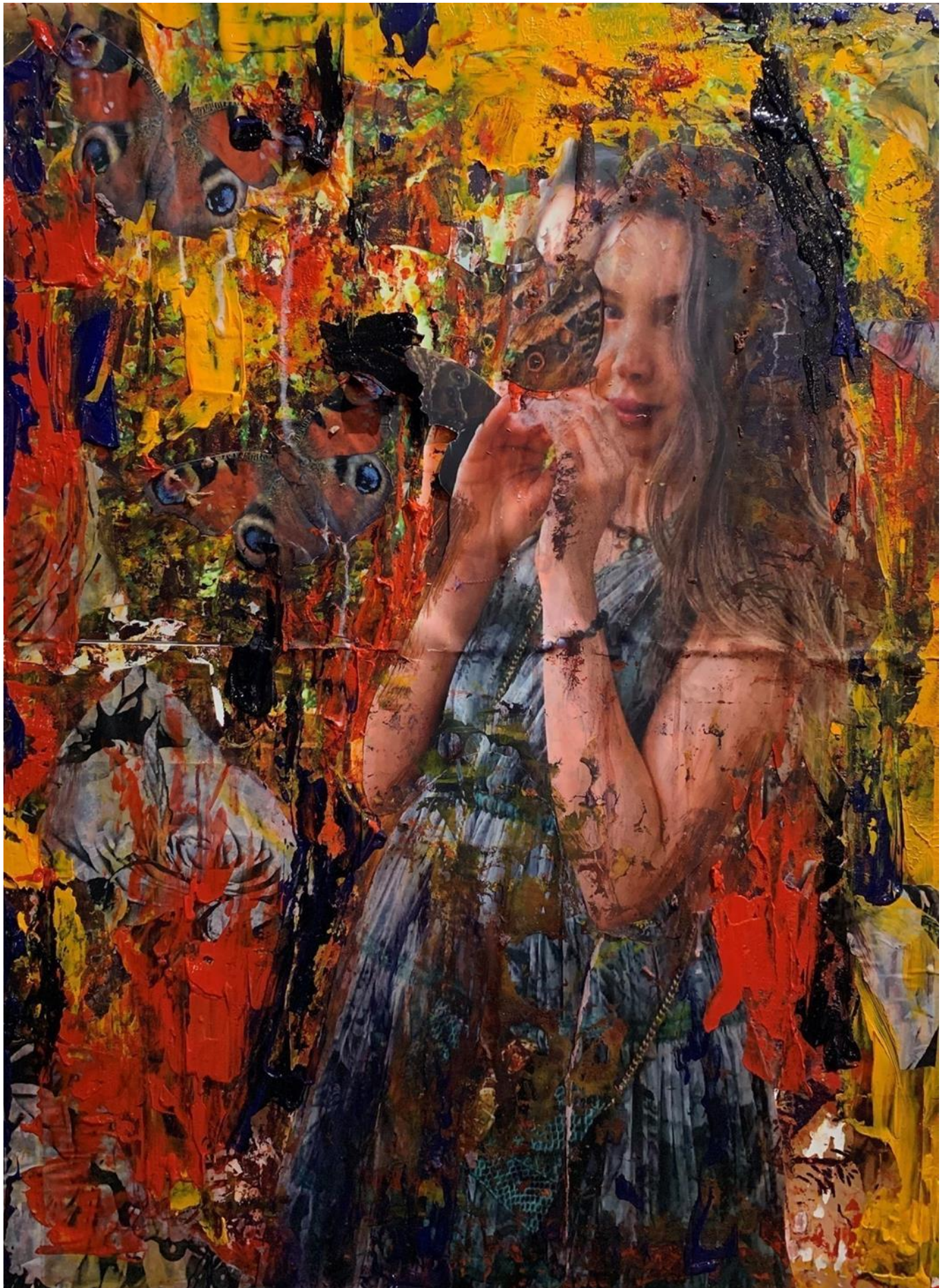
She has never heard of Poland. Her home is on a little island called Petit Gonave.

She is a descendent of Polish legionnaires, who were sent to Haiti by Napoleon to suppress a slaves uprising. However, having realised the extent of exploration and abuse, the Poles changed sides and fought in support of the oppressed indigenous people. Subsequently, most of them were slaughtered. A few lucky ones managed to disperse to the islands.

Size: (w) 60cm; (h) 85cm

mixed media on two joined stretched canvases

2019



7. Thai Masseur

This is a portrait of a single mum of three. She originates from a poor village in the North of Thailand. She has migrated to a land of opportunities and her new life is in Pattaya. Before the crisis, her days used to be very monotonous and repetitive. She worked 17-hour long shifts as a masseur. Now, in lockdown, her parlour is closed. All she can do is to dream about returning to her previous life and status quo.

Size: (w) 116cm; (h) 184cm

mixed media on stretched canvas

2020



8. Punhane

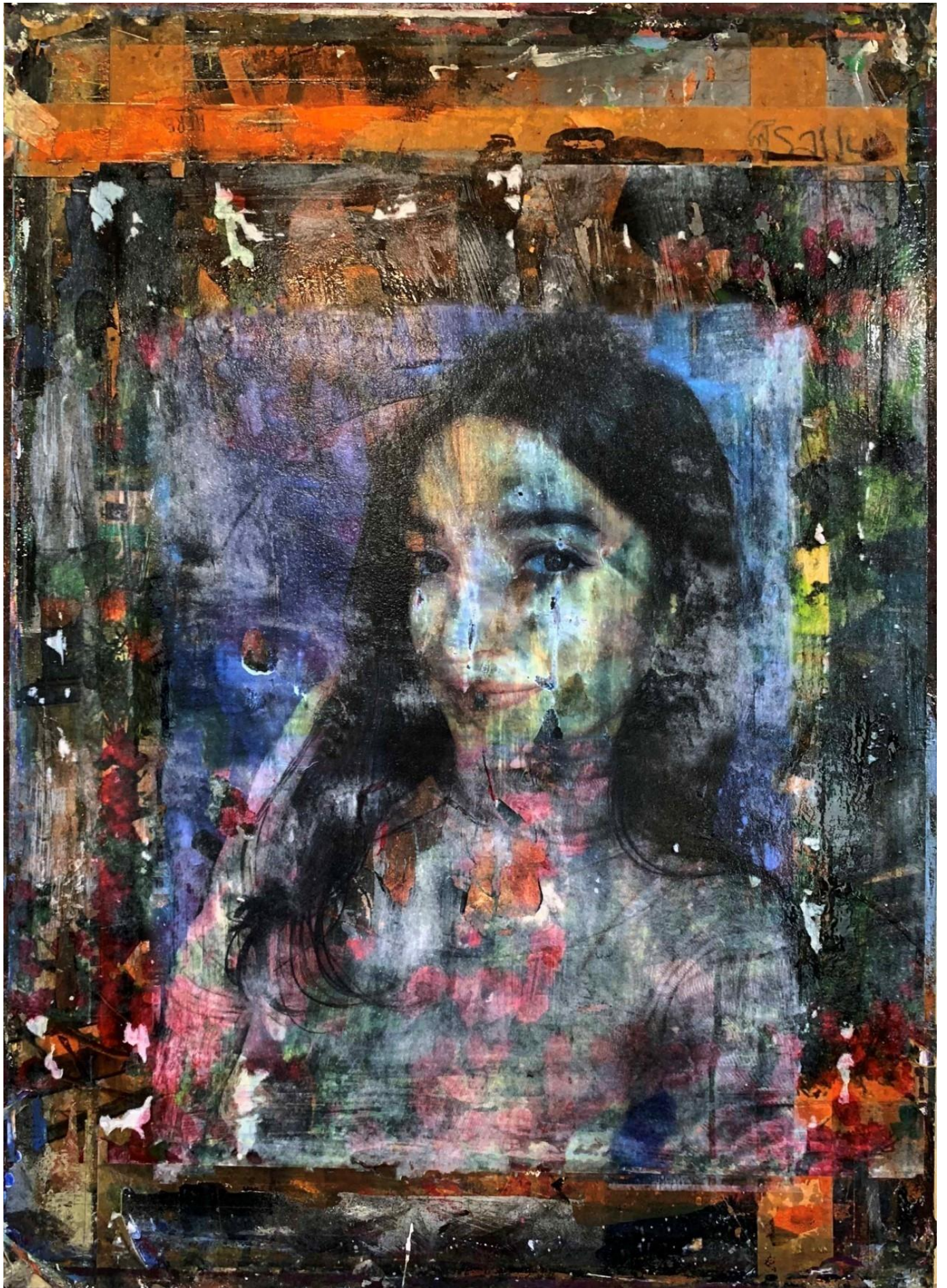
mixed media on board

Punhane, in Azeri, means a 'secret'. She was my guide in Azerbaijan. She was diligent, perceptive and intuitive. She made a very positive impression on me. Her outgoing personality was enhanced by a very natural look, reserved and introvert personality, beautiful young face with long hair and no makeup. She fears for her life and hides her Armenian origin.

Size: (w) 60cm; (h) 78cm

Mixed media on board

2019



- links to my work on on YouTube

<https://youtu.be/DWS3QPqurzl>

<https://youtu.be/usrsOyftARl>

<https://youtu.be/Pw73alpzPM4>

<https://youtu.be/IBM1XDuxhZQ>

<https://youtu.be/VgyRkjZj6kw>

<https://youtu.be/ot3eH0D-TWg>

https://youtu.be/n-_y5gS8A5l

<https://youtu.be/Fq3WPPKPy1Y>