

YEAR 12 VISUAL ARTS

# BODY OF WORK

## Artist Statement

### NAME

Emma  
Gordon

### TITLE

Paralysed Force

### EXPRESSIVE FORM

Sculpture x1

Inspired by T.S Eliot's 'The Hollow Men', my sculptural relief 'Paralysed Force' explores the punishment of Modern man's sin in the 21st century; a state of impotence similar to the Ignavi in Dante's 'The Divine Commedia'. The human head is widely considered to consist of the soul, so the lack thereof not only elicits the exclusion of Modern man to self-knowledge and enlightenment, but also aids in a non-identifiable figure that is symbolic towards the decay of individualism and restoration for contemporary society. Whilst the hollow abdomen is a visual allusion to Eliot's poem, the cavity also serves to represent Modern man's lack of substance and fulfilment.

My art practice consists of immersion, utilising expressive strokes of bitumen mixed with turps to create burnt-like hues and a sap-like quality, smears of plaster and plaster bandage to create a bark-like texture and fine materials such as paper mix to create meticulous and intimate details. The monochromatic and desolate colour scheme mirrors my interpretation of the natural worlds ensuing degradation and barrenness, simultaneously allegorical towards the detriments of humanity's disconnect from nature; an awaiting futile and obsolete existence.

Influencing Artists:

Pablo Hueso's 'Falling', Gustave Doré's illustrations, Sasha Vinci 'The Eternal Wait', Anselm Kiefer 'Transformation and Transcendence'.