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Tasks in the order I received them:

Task One: Semiotic Analysis (Ryan task) = **500 words**

Task Two: Manifesto (Julia Task) = **502 words**

Task Three. (Jon Task) = **516 words**

Task One: Semiotic Analysis (Ryan's task)

The Yellow Brick Road- Map

- **Life's journey**
- **Which road do you take**
- **Do all roads lead to the same destination**
- **Meeting at a cross road**
- **Choices**
- **Making the wrong choice can lead to a good choice and vice versa**
- **It's who you meet along the way (people)**
- **The lessons you meet along the way (life)**
- **The emotions you need on your life journey eg scarecrow a brain, tin man a heart and the lion for courage**
- **The ruby slippers- You have always had the power to change your path and will continue to have the power to change your path**
- **Somewhere over the rainbow**
- **Inner rather than outer journey-enlightenment**



Pic 1

As a child I was fascinated by the Wizard of Oz. Although I loved the movie it frightened me at the same time. The Yellow Brick Road versus the Red Brick Road seemed to leave me with an unsettling feeling ***capturing a conscious struggle that inhibits our lives (Newirth, J, 2015, p.311).***

Dorothy by persuasion was assisted to take the path of the yellow brick road because if she followed the road of the Red Brick Path apparently this would of led her to the Witch and her enclave of flying monkeys, or so in her mind that seemed and in the movie narrative we are all led to believe this story and for good reason. Apparently ***the road to the City of Emeralds is paved with yellow brick. -F. Baum (Knowles, E., 2014)*** .Now I don't know about everybody else, but my road to my 'City of Emeralds' certainly hasn't been paved with yellow brick.

Sometimes, in real life the story of the yellow brick isn't always available to us as an individual or is it? The Yellow Brick Road is my own personal metaphor and it need not be a physical representation but a personal inner journey. The apparent golden path is not necessarily golden and the perfectly paved road in the movie in comparison to life is

upturned uneven bricks that many times ones feet can become stuck in. Sometimes we can manoeuvre our feet out of the broken bricks other times help may become available to us whether it be from the Lion, Scarecrow or Tin man. This often times is our own inner demons helping us to break free or maybe it's those flying monkeys chasing after us on the yellow brick road that really make one aware of personal changes one must make. Having a monkey on ones back isn't always the best scenario

If Dorothy did take the Red Brick Road, is this really a wrong decision? Perhaps it is about whom you meet along the way on any path taken and having acceptance that bad decisions can still lead to good decisions. The power to change direction, the power to face one's fears and the power to initiate a state of one's freewill. ***“So long as one has confidence and realises that the world is really a very plentiful place, one need not worry about the future or that one will ever lack for anything. One need not struggle or suffer or go through the agonies of growing up or of developing. All one needs, really, is to think positively” (Derry, K, 2014, p.8).***

In conclusion I would like to state that illusions are not always delusions and the Emerald City is not always what it's cracked up to be, especially when you find the man behind the curtain is just like you and me. We all need to realise that we are all from the same place and we can choose to be back home in Kansas anytime we want.

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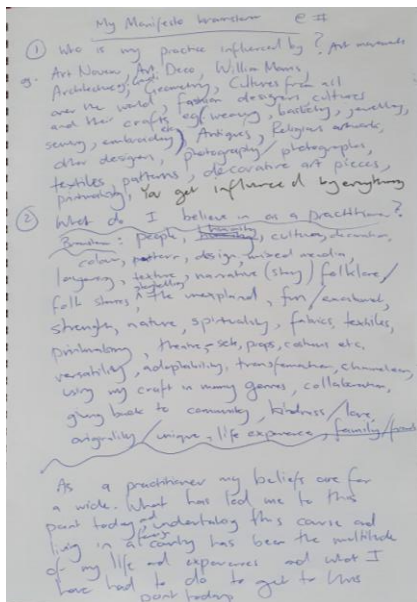
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Task Two: Manifesto (Julia's Task)

Manifesto Map/Brainstorm



~~My life is~~ The people that I have shared my life with family and friends and what they have brought me on every level. Stories and narratives especially other people's stories or experiences ~~have~~ I have always had an interest in. I find people from all walks of life ~~interesting~~ interesting and have exposed many colorful things that have pushed me to be where I am today. Culture and identity have been a big influence in my life and if it hasn't been me learning my culture and life experiences ~~of~~ others it has been me talking to other people about this topic. ~~To see how humanity~~ ~~on a experience a plethora of~~ ~~experiences~~ Being creative throughout my life has been a constant and perhaps one of the only constants. I can rely on creativity through the good times and the bad as being creative releases old and new emotions and assists one ability to regain control even in times of ~~unpredictability~~ ~~unpredictable~~ unpredictability. A creative constant in my life has always been that of drawing ~~and painting~~. Drawing is something that you can always do as long as there is a surface of some sort and an implement or tool to make a mark.

Drawing is one of the most recent forms of communication and the symbology behind the image ~~states~~ ~~always~~ makes me feel connected whether it be to my own spirit or to the wider world or to the global community especially now that social media has ~~become~~ ~~what~~ what is all. ~~That~~ Drawing is the ~~core~~ ~~core~~ ~~to~~ ~~create~~ ~~existence~~ ~~and~~ ~~from~~ ~~drawing~~ ~~we~~ ~~can~~ ~~play~~ ~~a~~ ~~navigate~~ ~~our~~ ~~way~~ ~~through~~ ~~an~~ ~~array~~ ~~of~~ ~~existing~~ ~~creative~~ ~~endeavors~~ ~~that~~ ~~allow~~ ~~us~~ ~~to~~ ~~explore~~ ~~and~~ ~~investigate~~ ~~unchartered~~ ~~waters~~. To be amongst nature ~~and~~ ~~creativity~~, culture, good food and good people with stories to tell and stories to learn by is a ~~connection~~ ~~of~~ ~~a~~ ~~time~~ ~~character~~ ~~of~~ ~~our~~ ~~existence~~. ~~When~~ ~~we~~ ~~look~~ ~~around~~ ~~our~~ ~~world~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~man~~ ~~made~~ ~~objects~~ ~~or~~ ~~nature~~ ~~created~~ ~~things~~ ~~I~~ ~~see~~ ~~images~~, patterns, colors, textures, and I also see ways to build more of these ~~things~~ ~~things~~ ~~through~~ ~~my~~ ~~own~~ ~~experiences~~. To create ~~things~~ ~~things~~ ~~through~~ ~~my~~ ~~own~~ ~~experiences~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~only~~ ~~a~~ ~~process~~ ~~and~~ ~~practice~~ ~~but~~ ~~with~~ ~~needles~~, ~~spindles~~, ~~about~~ ~~using~~

8 Statements

1. My work will encourage me to create with childlike imagination bringing with it a narrative of fun and playfulness that will infiltrate the minds of the serious and dull.
2. The creation of art, craft and design incorporates a plethora of experimental activity. From materials to techniques, creativity is a portal to the unexplained and the

unimaginable. For good reason. Without a doorway into the sublime and mysterious uncharted waters of the creative mind would never be discovered.

3. Individuality as a creator can be lonely. Although one requires a level of autonomy one must also have a zest for people and realise that occasionally there is no I in Team. Collaboratively community can break thresholds of Creative Genius bringing together people, culture and development. As a creator I vow to always work with others because Rome wasn't built in a day and one man/woman did not succeed on his/her lonesome.
4. The therapeutic nuance of art has long been recorded over the realms of time. Creativity can be used as a weapon to enhance the general well being of the human race. Like switching off from the TV news or diverting one's eyes from the daily newspaper...and focussing in on the feel and touch of the form perhaps say in a ceramic vessel...ones mind can become ultimately at peace within the present moment of creating. Art Therapy, education and people are as the key to the well spring offering of what creativity can offer to any race or culture.
5. What good is a skill that cannot be passed down? Why it that people is are fearful of releasing their talent and sharing this to the world. What we don't realise is that creative abundance is free for all and unlimited. As an Artist/Designer I have the ability and the need to promote and encourage other creatives and realise that we are all unique and have many talents to bring into this world. Inclusiveness is the forbearer of a diverse conglomerate of unlimited and excitable human exchange. Why be any other way?
6. Charity is a necessary formality to enhance the opportunities for people who need a leg up in life. Not everyone has a smooth run of A-Z in life and sometimes people have to go to A-Q-Z and then back to A again before they can reach Z. It's about recognising and being grateful for what we have and our experiences that are given to us so that we can give back to those who are never given any options or choices. Creativity is found in the outer echelons of abandoned societies because sometimes

this is all they have. I have a mission to find these people and bring them to the forefront of their talent so that finally they can be commended for their many skills and abilities.

7. Is living as an Artist impossible. I don't think so. I believe we should all 'Live our Dreams'. Why do we follow other illusions of the 9-5 daily grind? Living a simple but fulfilling life as an Artist may mean that we have to sacrifice a few materialistic concerns but it is not at all impossibility. If a doctor or a lawyer can fulfil their dreams of occupation then Artist's can do the same. Creativity isn't a curse and shouldn't be looked at like this. To be working as an Artist is of great importance and should never be looked down upon. Without the great creator's of this world we would never have evolved to where we are today.

8. As an ethical practitioner I want all of my products to be handmade and not mass produced. There is too much wastage in this world from materialism and the plight of having things we don't need. There are also corporations who do not pay their workers correctly and there is onslaught of human slavery and cheap crap clothing/fashion being produced. 'Fashion is Heartless where it should be full of heart.'

1. FANTASY



Pic 2

Evoking our childlike core is an essential part of life. It is of great importance to never lose the ability to play, have fun and dress in silly outfits. ***The quest for happiness within illusion has been present since the works of Shakespeare, mainly in “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” (Bouloussa, S, 2013, p.1).*** Without moments of fantasy one would never reach their goals or dreams .Resilience of oneself is built upon a need for moments of escapism and delving into other worlds of fantasy whether it is of the fiction variety or perhaps the nonfiction. Without fantasy, survival of the human spirit would be bleak and unevolved. I have a duty to instil narratives of imagination and fun in the minds of all people and to promote stories that enliven feelings of excitement and joy. Life is about living, playing and coming up with creative ideas that take us back to where it all began, our childhood. Memories don’t just have to be memories they can continue.

5. INCLUSIVENESS



Pic 3

As a human I have a responsibility to all humans from every race, to every age group and to every social diverse population in the world. It is my duty to support and promote inclusiveness and to breakthrough limiting belief systems that have plagued our world since the dawn of time. In an age where human relationships are meant to be in progression we find ourselves still stuck back in the middle ages of an old outdated mindset that continues to repress and divide humanity. ***Existing research highlights that projects with high levels of participation and empowerment often result in participants 'getting to action' and becoming 'agents for change' (Fairey, T, 2018).***

By continuing to work with people on a community level incorporating artistic elements of art therapy and practicality can only lead to positive progression in their everyday life so that they themselves can develop and evolve and as stated above, can become their own 'agents of change'.

8. HANDMADE



Pic 4

Many moons ago objects were created with care, skill and precision. They were nurtured to completion and were honoured for their beauty. Aside from the world becoming a melting pot of overproduced reproductions, why is it that we have to reproduce meaningless items that cause devastation to the environment and to humanity.

It is my duty to educate and promote an ethical association between the creation of my work and where that object sits contextually within the broader community.

My philosophy of handmade versus mass produced mimics that of Kathe Kruse and international producer of handmade toys and dolls in that ***'The hand follows the heart. Only the hand can make what goes back through the hand to the heart.'***

(Fuchs, C, 2015, p.1).

As a maker it is fundamental that my viewpoint on 'handmade versus mass production' is strong and steadfast mirroring myself the creator. I have an individual responsibility to this world and the peril that it is already facing. I refuse to add more fuel to this fire of human material mass consumption.

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Task Three. (Jon's Task)

Corset-Map

Beauty	Transformation	Craftmanship	Social Discourse
Sexuality	Pain	Body Adornment	True/False Narrative
Costume	Pleasure	Object	Perception
Discomfort	Artistry	Culture	Judgement



Pic 5

*Everyone knows the famous scene in 'Gone with the Wind' when Scarlett O'Hara is laced into her Corset. **'Twenty Inches!....She groaned aloud....That was what having babies***

did to your figure!(Steele, V 2003, p.1&2).According to this line in 'Gone with the Wind' from the time we are born our bodies be it men or women are a part of our cultures order (Thesander, M, 1997,p.19).

When looking at the 'Corset' many things come to mind. Although in historical terms ***an object of past patriarchal sexual exploitation and control, the corset in history also had many positive connotations such as, self-discipline, artistry, respectability, beauty, youth and erotic allure (Steele, V 2003, p.1&2).***

When I look at the 'Corset' individually I firstly see artistry...I see the craftwork that is behind the making of a beautiful costume. Perhaps you could look at the Corset as an object of transformation. It may be that in the course of history it was used for a man's sexual deviance but I do tend to believe that all costume that is made for an original purpose does not always deliver what originally it had anticipated. ***'Blind is the man who cannot see that the form of the corset explains the pattern of social custom' (Lynn. E. Davis, R& Davis, Leonie, 2010, p.73)*** In history and even now costume is used in different cultures for ceremonial purposes. The use of any costume including the Corset is not only transformative physically but also mentally and emotionally and perhaps even spiritually. I believe like other costume the Corset unveils a feeling of 'power'. Power to whoever wears it and the power to be who you want to be. To endure any form of body adornment, one must deal with at least physical pain. Like they say you have to go through the pain to get to the good stuff. The acquisition of my own tattoo I didn't undertake due to beauty reasons but I acquired it due to life experiences and memories of ancestors that have passed. Pain should not always be viewed as a negative, to develop in any level in life one has to experience this feeling even if one brings it upon oneself such as the wearing of an object that changes the body drastically. ***Having a long neck is often seen as beautiful in Kayan culture, when they have been wearing the rings for a long time, many of the women say they feel they have become an integral part of their bodies and they feel 'naked' without them.***
(website)

Perhaps we can argue that it is dangerous to alter the body in drastic ways but I also think it is dangerous to swim with a tank full of sharks, to smoke cigarettes and to start policing one's freedom to express true individuality. In conclusion I feel that 'The Corset' in history is an object of many meanings and open to interpretation. Like the ringed necked Kayan women, the Corset has become an integral element to whoever wears it, an outer skeleton to protect the inner workings of the human condition.

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