

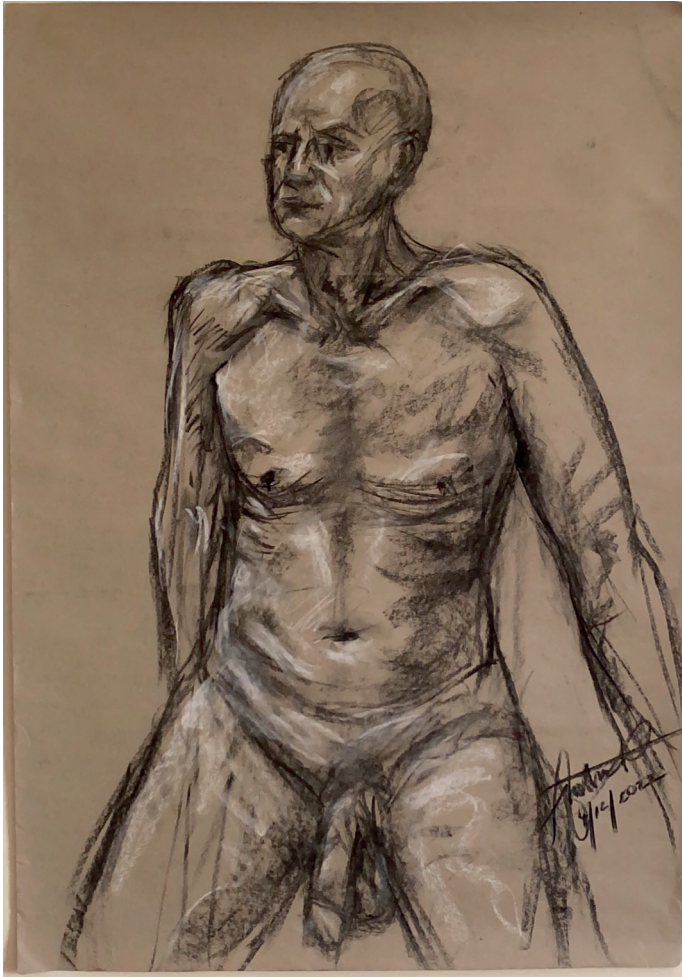


Shen Sheh

"The pencil sketch is a combination of bovine and cervine skulls, inspired by my learning of differences between horns and antlers in the second year of my veterinary degree at the Royal Veterinary College. With horns being slow-growing and permanent in contrast

to antlers being grown and shed in cycles, it signified to me the profound relationship between life and death, growth and wear.

"It has been four years since I drew this; I have since graduated and am working as a small animal vet with aspirations to work towards progressing animal welfare and equality within the profession."

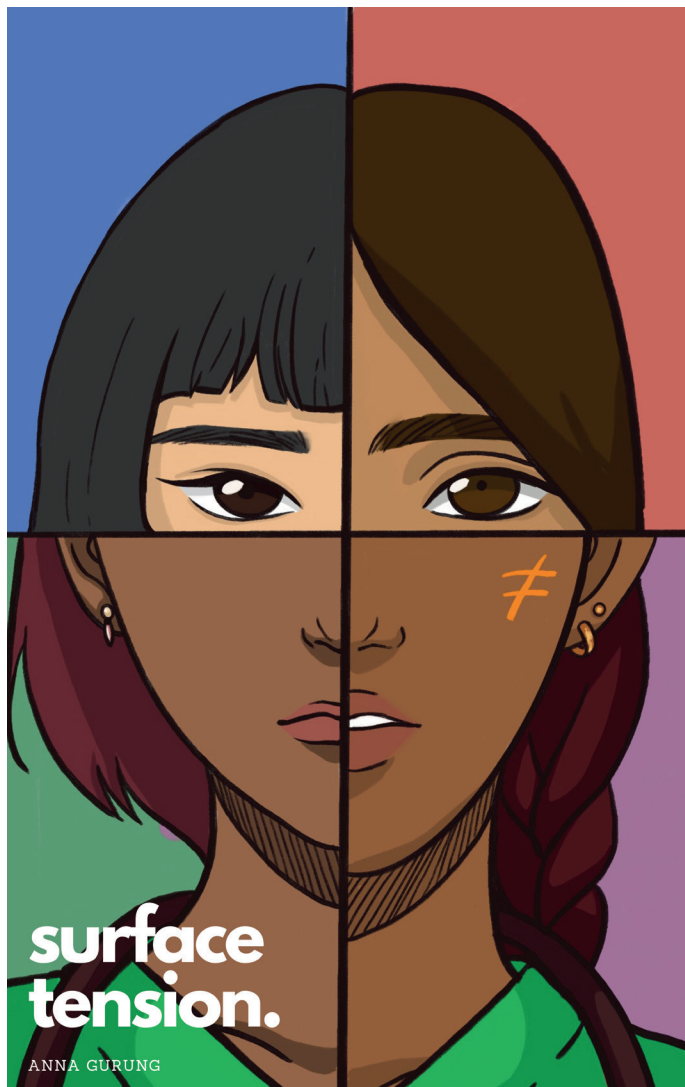


Anithra De Mel

"I'm a fourth year medical student at the University of Exeter and I've had a passion for art from a very young age. As I've grown older, I've held onto that passion and used it whenever I needed to wind down after a busy week.



These life drawings were a result of a medical humanities module facilitated by the university. It was inspired by the beauty and complexity of the human form and offered me a deeper understanding of the human anatomy and the vulnerability associated with the human condition. The mediums used were charcoal and white chalk on kraft paper."



Anna Gurung

"The project I created was made in part of a Student Selected Unit (SSU) for the fourth year of the University of Exeter Medical School. It is a part of my medical humanities project, where we explored Graphic Medicine. I wanted my stories to highlight racism within healthcare, with a special focus on microaggressions.

"This comic anthology endeavours to provide insight into a South Asian perspective. The aim was to show that those experiences are not singular and they're not alone. Additionally, this comic strives to provide a new perspective for people who are not BAME. Therefore, I have created three pieces reflecting events experienced by myself and my peers.

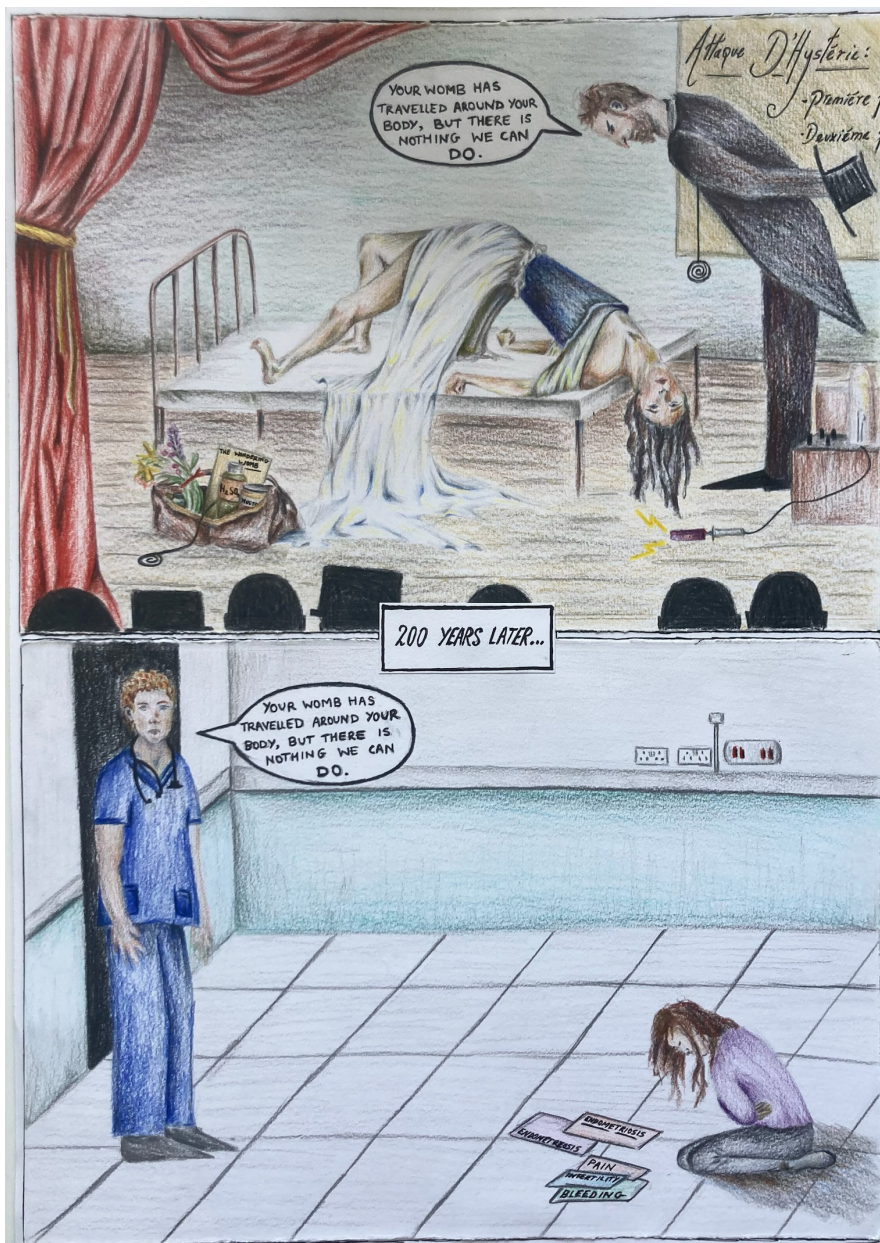


"The title Surface Tension has two meaning behind it:

The tensions that occur due to the 'surface' of the person - the colour of their skin etc.

The second is an analogy of droplets of water signifying microaggressions filling an emotional 'cup'. The droplets do not seem much initially, but it will lead to the point where the cup is fully loaded, causing surface tension, before the emotional cup is overfilled and it becomes too much for the person to cope.

"I've started an Instagram channel where I will be uploading the comics @dragonfruitsdoodles."



Elena Kirwan

"My name is Elena and I am a fourth year medical student. This year I chose a medical humanities module on the visual cultures of humour, health and illness and I would like to submit my final piece to your journal!

"We started the module by looking at 18th century medical satirical prints, and I was shocked to find a stark lack of female representation in the imagery. In fact, the only prints I came across with women as the subject were to do with sex and sex work, and the now debunked diagnosis of hysteria. This led me to read into the history of women's health, and to find out why it was swept under the rug for so long. My research started with Hippocrates and his theory of the 'wandering womb', where it was believed that the uterus had the ability to travel around the body and cause symptoms from shortness of breath to limb paralysis. It included the gruesome and disturbing treatments that women were put through, such as vaginal fumigation, clitoridectomy, oophorectomy and the rest cure, where women were not allowed to leave their bed, read, write or have any mental stimulation, in order to cure infertility.

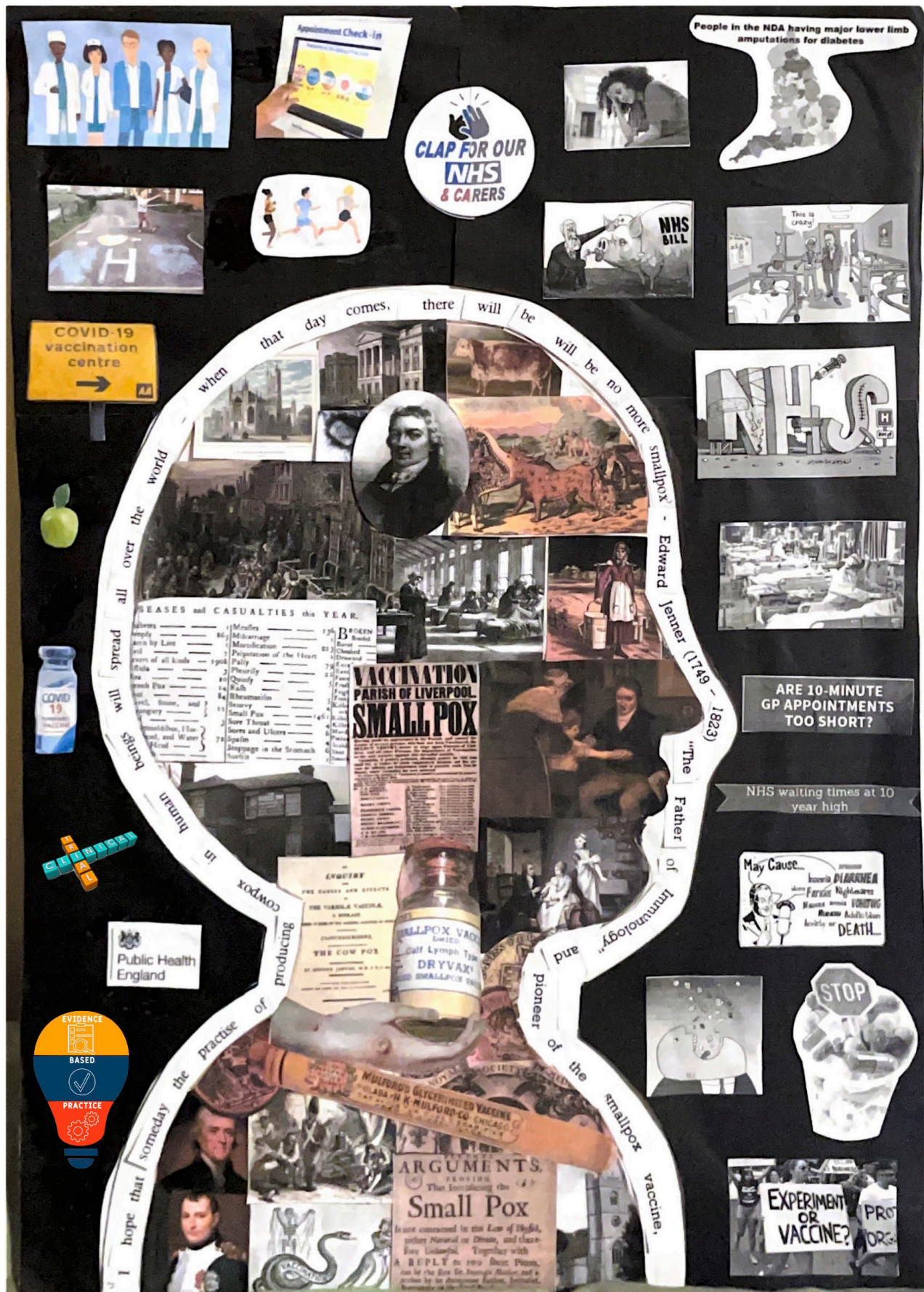
"I finished the module by creating a satirical image myself, which questions how far we have really come since the days of the wandering womb.

"It shows two women separated by hundreds of years, the first in a

classical 'hysterical' pose, the second bent over in pain surrounded by endometriosis leaflets. In both images, the doctor says "your womb has travelled around your body but there is nothing we can do". This image plays with the idea of the wandering womb and its ability to move around the body, and endometriosis, where the lining of the uterus does in fact grow in other areas of the body, causing debilitating pain, bleeding and infertility. It is one of the most common gynaecological conditions in the world, affecting 1 in 10 women, and yet there is still no cure.

"The first image is in the style of 18th century satire, where the more you look at it, the more details you find. The theatrical setting and crowds of men refer to the infamous displays that the French neurologist Charcot would put on, where he would wheel out women from the Parisian psychiatric hospital and 'hypnotise' them into having hysterical fits, to the delight of the onlooking male crowd. I also replaced the doctor's stethoscope with a hypnosis pendulum to further play with this idea. The bag of equipment contains flowers, as sweet smells were used as a way of trying to lure the misbehaving uterus to its rightful place in the body, and also mustard and sulphuric acid, as some women were forced to bathe in these substances to cure their hysteria. There is also an electrotherapy machine, as these were commonly used to try and treat hysteria. The second image is much simpler, showing a struggling woman in a sterile room, abandoned and alone.

"This image was created using watercolour pencils."



Ishani Rakshit

"I've attached an artwork piece I did for University of Exeter Medical School, showing Edward Jenner's legacy and the contrast to modern day medicine."