

October 5th 2007

Dear Veronica,

I have inspected your photographs in your series entitled "The Games We Play and the Masks We Hide Behind".

I am very excited about the body of work for various reasons:

1. **Their unique style:** Whilst I have obviously seen other photomontages, you manage to capture an atmosphere in your works unlike any that I have experienced before. This is most likely due to the unique nature of your own experiences and the way in which these experiences have affected your view of the world and the society in which you must live and work. Viewing this powerful body of work becomes almost an experience in itself, a private window onto your world and into your mind that is both emotional, thought provoking and at times disturbing yet very interesting.
2. **Benefits to other victims seeing them:** The benefits it offers to people who have also suffered from abuse in terms of the healing quality of the images. My discussions with you have confirmed my belief that seeing these images could act as a form of healing for abuse victims. They will be able to identify and relate to you through your own and their own experiences. Hence realizing that they are not alone, that this is not something for them to be ashamed of and that it is something that they could share in order to heal themselves.
3. **Benefits to victims as a form of healing:** The benefits that photography and in particular your style offers as a form of healing for victims of abuse. Victims of abuse may be able to either hire a photographer or take images themselves in order to capture those feelings and emotions that are often so difficult to explain or talk about.
4. **Dissuasion and healing of abusers:** The benefits that the body of work can offer in terms of dissuading abusers. The body of work is so powerful as it forces the viewer to get inside the head of the abuse victim in order to understand the affect that this experience has had on her life. This is very unusual as most abusers or potential abusers never get the opportunity to see the affect of their actions. These are usually very hidden and are most often not ever vocalized let alone put down into visual forms that everyone can see and identify with.

5. **The positive message:** I believe that the power of the body of work is so much more enriched and empowered by the positive message of the overall exhibition. Exhibiting ones inner most feelings with such powerful, beautiful images cannot be looked on as being negative. They are encouraging and inspiring for victims, abusers and the general public and will touch and affect all who see them.
6. **The length that they have taken to produce:** Much time and effort has gone into the preparation of these images. This has affected the tone, mood and style of the work as your own moods and experiences have altered. This adds to the importance of the body of work and to those who may choose to prepare their own bodies of related work in the future.
7. **The support and involvement of Dr Jaco Naude:** The circumstances behind your treatment and the use of hypnotherapy add to the unique nature of your experiences, your healing and the body of work. This all adds to the importance of the body of work as it separates it from works by other artists in the past and in the future.
8. **The lectures via Vodacom and the Tshwane University of Technology :** the interest that these important bodies have in your body of work and your willingness to share your talent with students and the general public add to the importance of the body of work. The importance of the body of work therefore lies in not only the talent of the photographer but in the difference that this body of work can make to the world at large. Your lecture is also told in a style that is uniquely yours. This style adds to the impact of the body of work and you have been invited back to lecture at the university on another occasion due to interest from the students. This confirms the importance of the body of work and its power to make people think and feel.
9. **International appeal:** This body of work has the power to appeal or affect people from all walks of life and therefore has the potential to be toured in South Africa and internationally thereby increasing its impact and importance.
10. **Photographs offer the potential for re printing:** It may be worth producing a limited edition series of signed lithographs thereby allowing various corporates with high visibility to purchase a series, thereby exhibiting them and increasing the amount of people that get to see them and thereby benefit from them.

11. **A book:** The images offer great potential for the production of a book that includes the images, a foreword by Dr Jaco Naude and motivations from you that explain the images, their style and the benefits that these offer to others.

I wish you good luck in your endeavors and am most willing to work with you in terms of exhibiting the work in The Kizo Art Gallery and in assisting you in terms of the touring and cataloguing of both the important photographic exhibition and potential book.

Regards

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