

I have always wondered how nature could create something as complex as the human brain. Most about the way it works remains unknown and has left scientists puzzled. I started my project by researching the human brain. However, the more research I did, the more questions I had. How is our version of reality created? We create our idea of the world relying on our senses, but how do we create our versions of ourselves? And most importantly; how do we imagine our own minds?

I started the project with an experiment that involved asking people on Oxbow's campus to draw how they imagine their own minds or describe it in words. If I were to draw my own mind, it would be a green corridor with an infinite amount of doors, behind each a different memory, thought, state of mind. I was amazed by the variety of the answers I received. Here are some of the best ones: airport, rose garden, Mesopotamian city, landscapes, constellations, something floating. I continued by drawing/redrawing their ideas. Before starting the project I had been looking at the artworks of Rembrandt, and was deeply inspired by them. I chose to learn copper etching, a technique I had never used before. I decided to make small copper etchings of these images, then unite them in one big picture.

Combining art with a psychological experiment was a truly new and engaging working process. I gained a better insight into how others think, and how much is still there to discover about the human brain and mind.

HOW DO YOU IMAGINE YOUR OWN MIND?

Hanna S.