

“I don’t see why male genitals are more sacred than female” - Sylvia Sleigh. Entering a museum, one of the works of art you are sure to see is a portrait, sculpture or photo of a nude woman. The history behind art, both modern and classic, has made it so this is a normal thing to observe in an artistic space. The nude male body, however, is something that is almost never represented.

My final project sought to explore the hypocrisy behind the nudity of women and the hyper-sexualization of women in art. I decided to portray my ideas as a mixed media project with sculpture and woodwork components. I wanted to represent the nude woman posing for the male artist but as her face shows, against her own will. I used this to personify feelings of objectification. The male artist, contrary to what we are used to seeing, is nude as well, breaking the norms of how men are portrayed in art.

Throughout this process, I reflected on my experiences seeing nude women in art and my own feelings of sexual objectification. The discomfort which is brought up in both of these instances is something I tried my best to portray, the “clueless” man always lurking in the corner. My goal for this project was to dispute the normalcy of sexualization of women in art, hopefully causing people to reflect on how they perceive women as a collective.

POSE.
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