

HNC @ HOME 2026



A Level Photography – *Activity 1*

Select ONE of the activities below.



Activity 1

The artist Stephen. J. Shanabrook has taken it upon himself to deform once beautiful models into 'hideous creatures' for his *Paper Surgery* photography collection. He uses 'found imagery' from glossy fashion magazines and twists and crumples the images to alter our perception of the individual within.

Many of his works play with the concept of beauty and ugliness and it is here we want you to experiment with your own examples of his style of work.

Implications - There's a certain aspect of imperfection that you find intriguing. With so many clean-cut images in ads so readily available at our fingertips, we want you to use this to your advantage and use these images to hand alter in a way that you see fit. You can scrunch, fold, twist and even rip these images to create a new outcome and meaning.

Select a minimum of three images and create two new outcomes with this. These can be found images from magazines or some of your own images that you have printed.

Photograph the original using your phone followed by your two alternative outcomes. We have included some of our own examples for you to see.

If you want to explore this further, you can follow this link and read more about the artist and watch a short video on how he has created his own imagery.



<https://stephenshanabrook.com/paper-surgery/>

Activity 2 – Rankin Destroy

Rankin’s “Destroy” project was a concept which involved teaming up with a children’s music charity, Youth Music! Due to the charities 10th birthday, Rankin asked 70 musicians and visual artists to “destroy” their own portraits taken by the iconic photographer. This would eventually lead to an iconic, original piece produced by the artists themselves. The chosen musicians for the project had also inspired Rankin’s son Lyle and his love for music. Read more here:

<https://www.rankinphoto.co.uk/specialprojects/destroy-2009>

Rankin’s work has been created with the collaboration of famous musicians and visual artists. The outcomes begin with his original portrait. We want you to do the same – Print off 4-5 photographs these can be of anyone – famous celebrities or even yourself!



Example from Rankin’s project

“Alanis had seen some photos of mine from a series called ‘Highly Flammable’, where the models were burning in the frame, and that’s why she commissioned me. It seems apt that she chose to burn the image” - Rankin

Our example and tools used.



Extension Activity – Write a short paragraph that explains your thought process of these images. How have you chosen to manipulate them? What resources did you use and why? Do you think that the outcome clearly represents the work of Rankin’s Destroy/Shanabrook’s Paper surgery?