

YEAR 12 VISUAL ART
BODY OF WORK

Artist Statement

NAME

Petra Williamson

TITLE

*Elements of the
Human Psyche*

MATERIALS

*Collection of
work: painting,
photography and
ceramics*

The four cardinal elements of nature are the mediums through which the world's soul is expressed. They make up the very essence of our earth and exist all around us, from the ground beneath our feet to the sky above, to the warm glow of the sun and the cool depths of the sea. Reconnecting to the elements helps us to not only understand who we are, but also nurture our own spirit; the essential fifth element that unites us with the natural world.

In my Body of Work, I seek to illustrate the intrinsic connection between the four elements of nature and the human spirit to understand my own personal journey through life. I chose to embody the elements in clay breastplates to represent their connection to the human form, additionally featuring them in a series of photographs that serve to communicate my relationship to the world. And finally, I dedicate my painting to my own human spirit, drawing upon the imagery of Botticelli's 'Birth of Venus' and the Greek goddess Psyche, who is the physical embodiment of the human soul. Together, my collection of works represents a spiritual harmony between people and the natural world, and how through nature we can learn to express our most beautiful and authentic self.