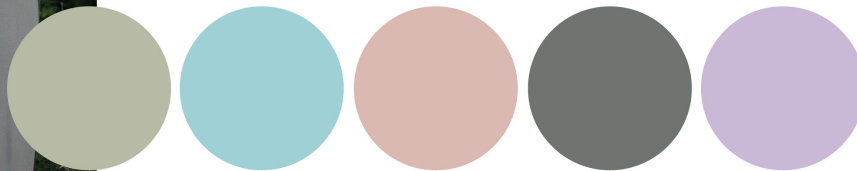
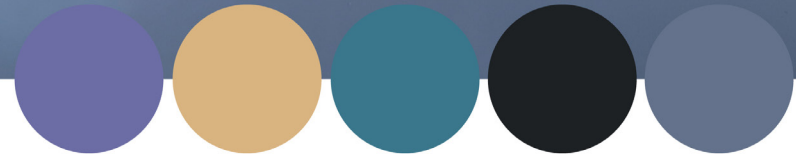
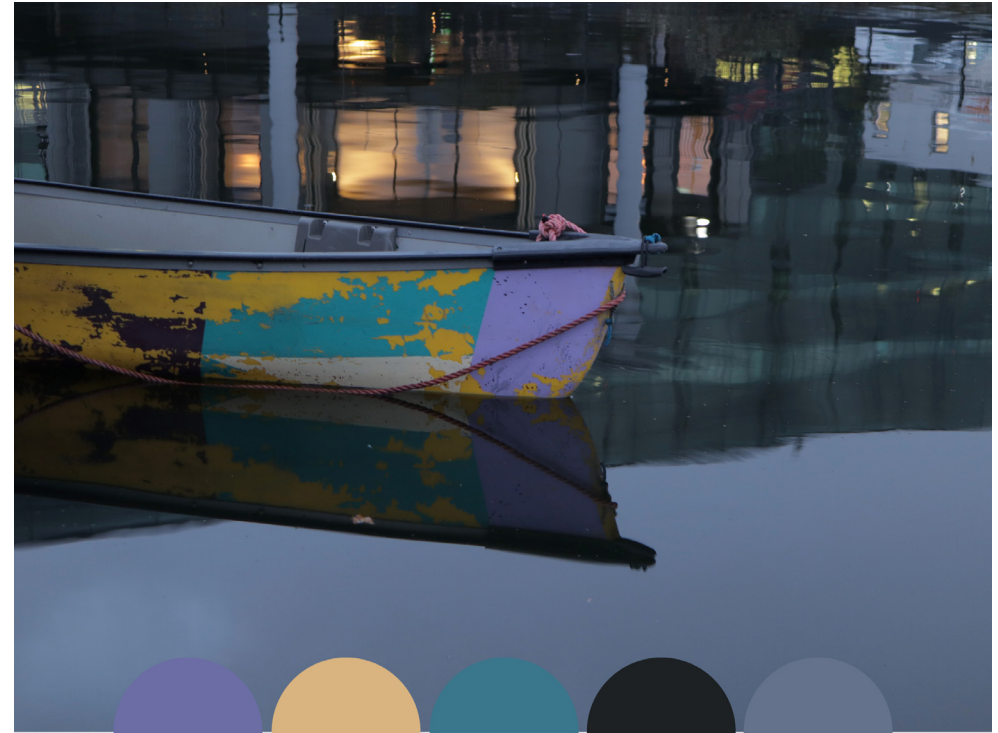


ERICA WEIDE

Lecturer in Fashion Textiles, LCF
Teaching Design and Print Workshops
BA1 Year Tutor



Photos available on Instagram: @ericaweide



BACKGROUND

- > Worked in Retail for many years
- > Studied Surface Textiles @ LCF
- > Passion for Research and Colour
- > Trend Forecasting (USP)
- > Current Job since Sept 2020

ARTICLE CHOSEN:

Spark: UAL Creative Teaching and Learning Journal

On the spectrum within art and design academic practice

Luca M. Damiani, Media Artist and Associate Lecturer, LCC

ARTICLE DISCUSSES:

- > Relationship between art & design and neurodiversity
- > The author has Asbergers
- > Questions: What is 'normal'?
- > Claims art education is supportive
- > Author uses art and graphic design to communicate his experiences.

NEURODIVERSITY:

“Neurodiversity embraces many aspects of the brain’s functions and neurological diversity (Pollak, 2009), encompassing autism, dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, Asperger’s and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).”

USING ART TO COMMUNICATE EXPERIENCE:

Example of art work: 'My Eye Contact Clock Reminder'

ABOUT:

- > Luca uses art to communicate his experiences.
- > He avoids eye contact to enhance concentration during conversations.
- > Misread by those who don't know him.
- > Luca is aware of this and has to force himself to meet eye contact now and then during face to face meetings.
- > Does this to fit into the norm.
- > This means he is lowering his own ability to concentrate to accommodate to others - help them feel comfortable.

My Eye Contact Clock Reminder

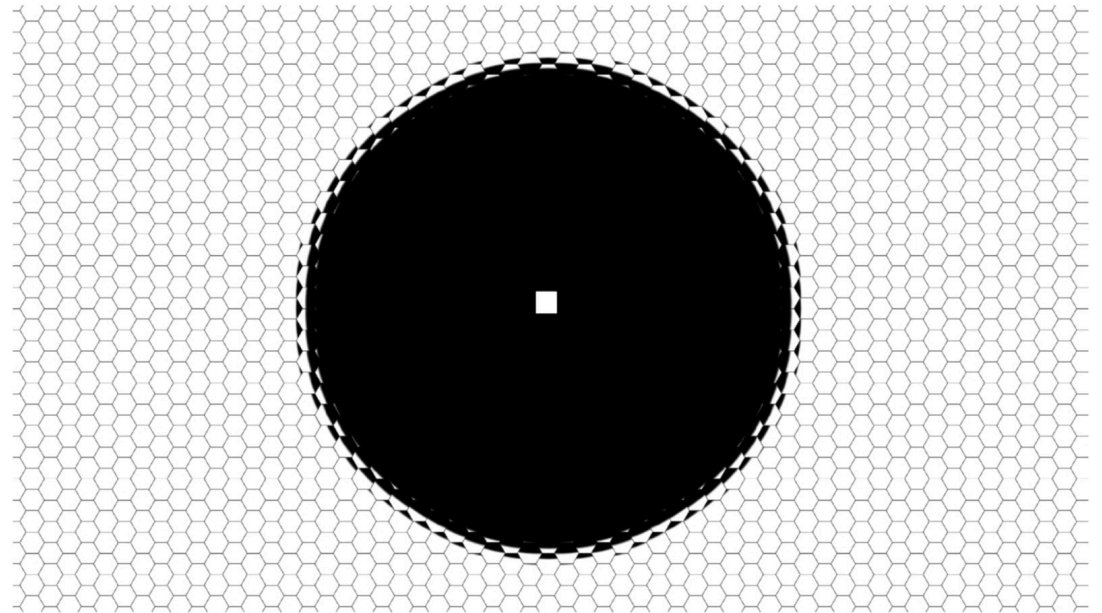


Figure 3: Luca M. Damiani, *My Eye Contact Clock Reminder* (2017).



*Here's to all the Greta Thunberg's of the world.
People different from the norm make this place
more unique, interesting and hopeful.*

Points to note:

The way neurons in the brain are connected affects how we think, see, analyse and respond to information and situations.

Scientists as well as society has deemed what is 'normal' and what is 'different'.

We are too often moulding people to fit into the norm and expecting them to conform to social rules set in our society.

By adhering to these rules, individuals may be consciously lowering their own abilities, making already existing barriers even larger.