

It's Nothing Personal

A Senior Project Submitted to

The Division of the Arts of Bard College

by

Allegra Cooper

Annandale-on-Hudson, NY

May 2020

*“You’re an artist when you say you are. And you’re a good artist when you make somebody else experience or feel something deep or unexpected.” -- Amanda Palmer, American Singer songwriter*

The idea is there. It is born from a dark area within and travels towards the light, ready to be exposed to the world and yet something stops this from happening. What holds back the idea is unclear but what is clear is that this idea is alive and, like a nervous animal, wanting to be in a safer place. *It's Nothing Personal* unravels avenues that connected me to an experimental creative process. When the blue cyanotypes are exposed to the light, the bound prey animals were also exposed; their mutations morphing them into something stronger than that of a feeble rabbit or a wriggling ferret. I've found that their struggle stems from their inability to convey their situation. Breaking into myself, I see the same type of struggle with my voice. Some ideas are already in a state of mutation and are being forced out of hiding. Various blue colored tones across the pieces reflecting the depth in which the idea sits within; my fear of vulnerability pushing them to different levels in my mind.

These artworks are birthed outside of my own control like they are spurred from the emotions that boils up within me and spills out onto paper. Internally, I feel the creation process and I am able to see why and how something has come into existence without words to express. In this project, I wanted to show this termination.

In going through this journey, I hoped to overcome the bonds that hold back my expression. Seeing something so personal become not so personal in the end.





















