

# Milestone for Cancer - it's still personal [pretty ugly]

## Artist Statement

Paul Owen is a Senior Lecturer on the BA (Hons) Fashion programme at Liverpool John Moores University. As a specialist in visual communication, he teaches principally on the Fashion Communication pathway. Paul is also a practice-based researcher, and is currently exploring the role of visual language within Art and Science, in particular how imagery can be used communicating the physical and psychological aspects of cancer and its' treatments. He is always seeking to collaborate with specialists from the Art, Science and Medical backgrounds, to try to make the 'ugliness' of cancer and its treatment appear 'beautiful' in abstract senses.

## Paul Owen

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## About The Work

[**pretty ugly**] is series of hybrid artworks based on Art, Science and Technology — in this instance an artistic representation of what's happening inside the body during chemotherapy treatment. The artwork acknowledges the aesthetics and expressive possibilities of digital image making bringing new and accessible narratives to the 'ugliness' of cancer. The dynamic images try to evoke the chemical energies happening within the body through fluidity and light. They represent the power and control of medicine.

The *Milestone for Cancer* project is an ongoing visual documentation of the experience of living with cancer through experimental image making. Originally starting with the re-appropriation of a Paul's personal diary, the project seeks to explore the role of visual language and how imagery can be used to communicate the physical and psychological aspects of cancer. The images are intentionally abstract in their nature, which is a direct result of the methodology used in the creation of the image. Each piece is totally unique and cannot be recreated. They are generally vibrant and almost glossy in their presentation - a result of hours of trial and error. They may appear abstract and minimal in style, but the colour is intended to be vivid and seeks attention from the viewer to decode. There is little colour correction and very limited photographic manipulation in post-production.

### Medium:

CMYK large format digital prints

### Dimensions:

1050mm x 720mm (framed prints)



