Pictures I took from a trip to Barcelona, looking at Texture in Architecture as the main focus for my inspiration from my first project in Year 3:

Images I have taken on my trip to Barcelona, I visited Park Güell also known as the Gaudi park as well as Sagrada Familia Cathedral. I wanted to look at the texture of the buildings and the surfaces of the building materials that were used to create the architectural pieces.

Final outcome images of hand printed blazer from previous project:

I am happy with the outcome of the blazer, there are a few things I would however change about it. The halo from the colour pigment discharge hadn't come out as strong as it had done on some of my screen printed samples, but I think that that was due to the different materials of the garment and that I wasn't able to apply force from screen printing which would have also helped the dye absorb through the material. I had hoped that the blue colour pigment discharge would have turned out slightly brighter or more colourful but with it being more subtle it works better within my tonal colour scheme. I think that for my first attempt printing onto a garment of this material and structure I have done well.

Reflecting on last project as inspiration for current print project:

Prints that were created after being inspired by different surface textures in architecture. Using print techniques and pastes like Procion, Discharge and Colour Pigment Discharge to create depth and texture in my samples.

I want to go back to the original theme from my last project of Texture in Architecture, I want to be inspired by the prints that I produced from that project. Initially my idea was to replicate the methods and outcomes that I had created with these prints and change the colour scheme radically. I wanted to look at using really bright summery colours to see how it would impact and change the look of the print and pattern.

I also wanted to explore if it would change the initial context of the print, whether having a different colour scheme would make the pattern fit Menswear clothing any more or any less than the original colours of the prints.

Researching current trending colour schemes on WGSN:

After finding this image on WGSN I decided that I wanted to create a colour scheme similar to this. I liked the mix of paler colours with a pop of something vibrant, I think having a dash of bright colour helps to bring out the more muted colours.
The muted colours also relates back to the colours I used in my last project.


DIOR MEN - Spring 2022 Menswear
https://www.wgsn.com/fashion/article/91433
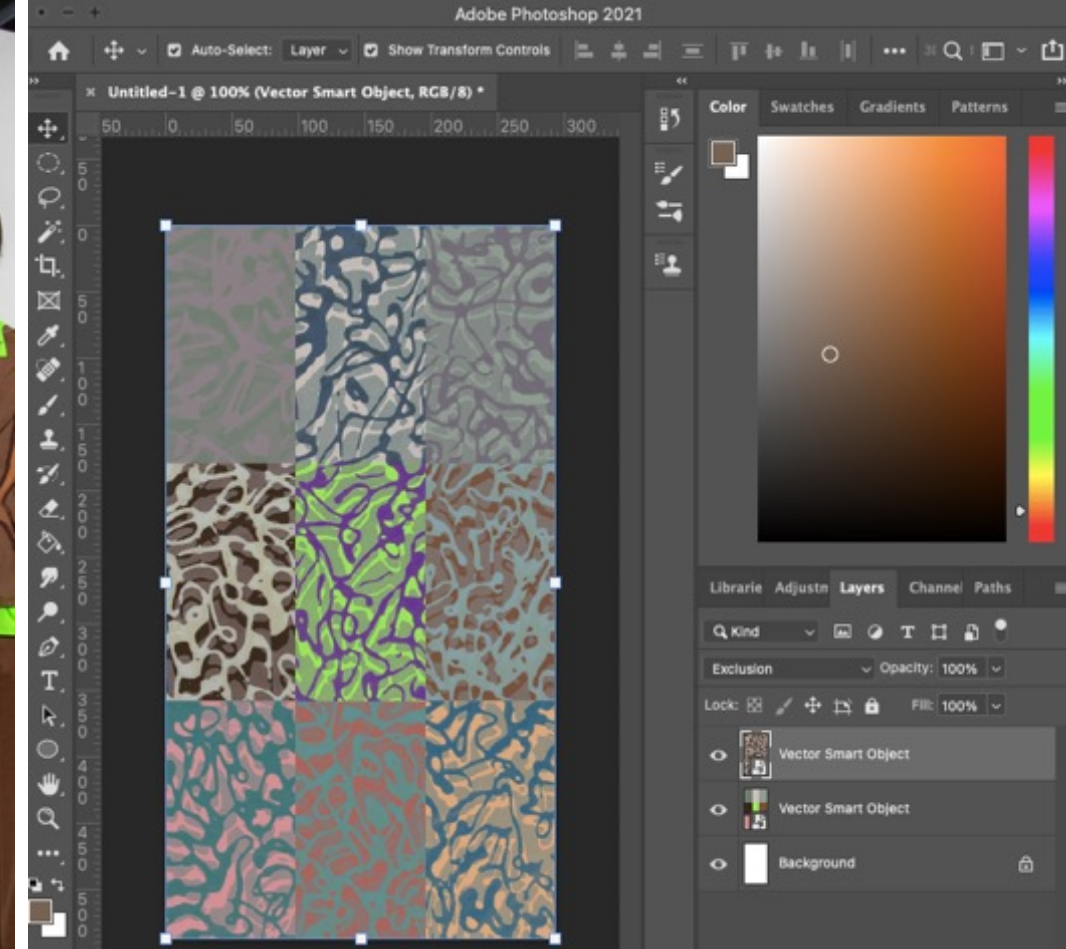
Taking a print sample from my past project into Photoshop and putting it in current colour scheme idea.

Using prints from past project and new colour scheme to see the possible outcomes of new samples:

I started to look at what my new colour scheme would look like on the prints I created in the last project. I knew I wanted to take my inspiration from texture into the project as well and thought that I might create a print similar to the ones I made. Using Photoshop I chose different filters which I thought portrayed my new colour scheme the best. Overlaying the colours on my patterns helped me to see how the pattern changes when it is shown a bright colour, I definitely think that it would change the context of the prints.
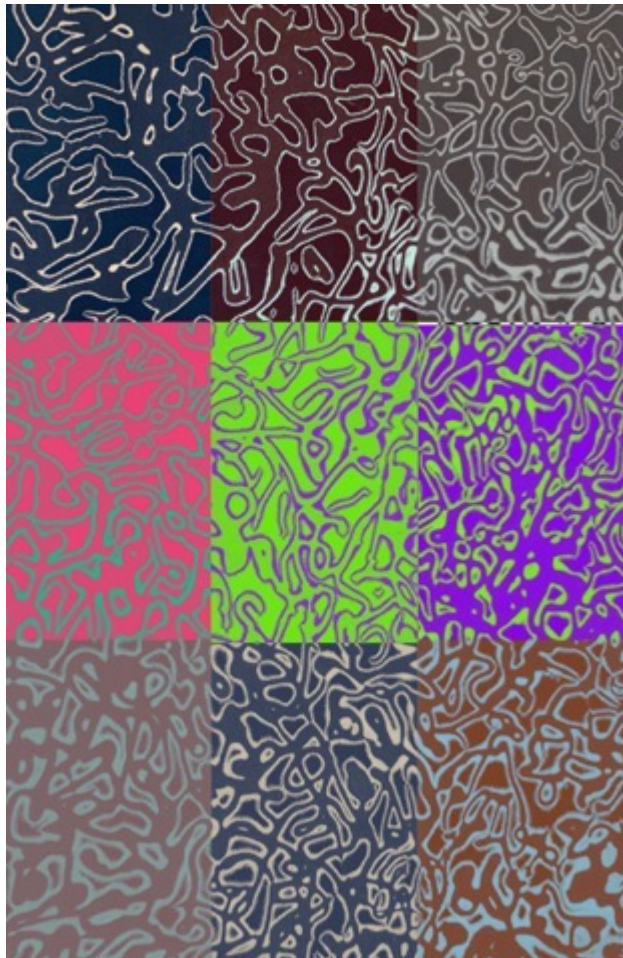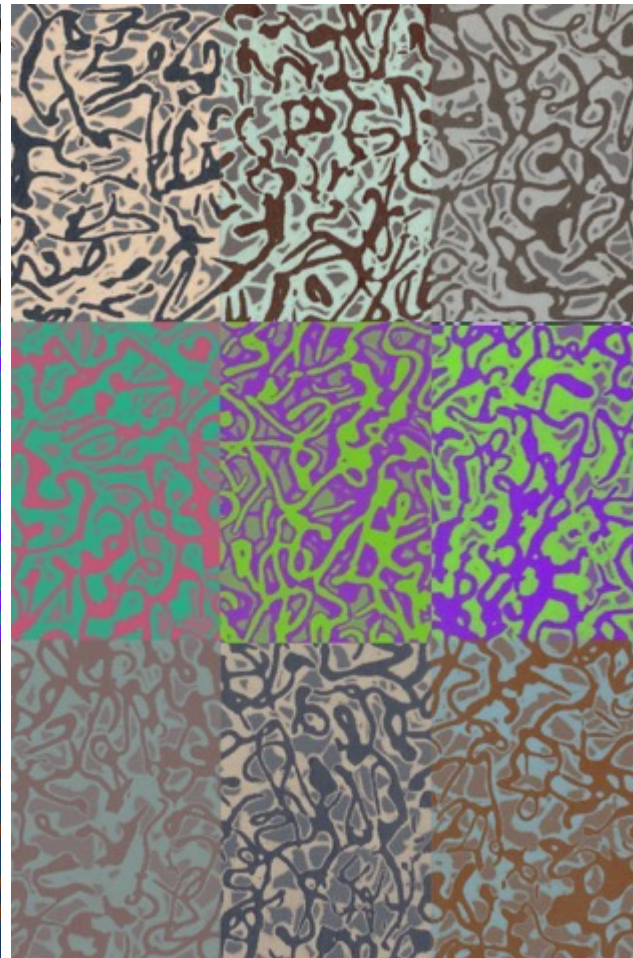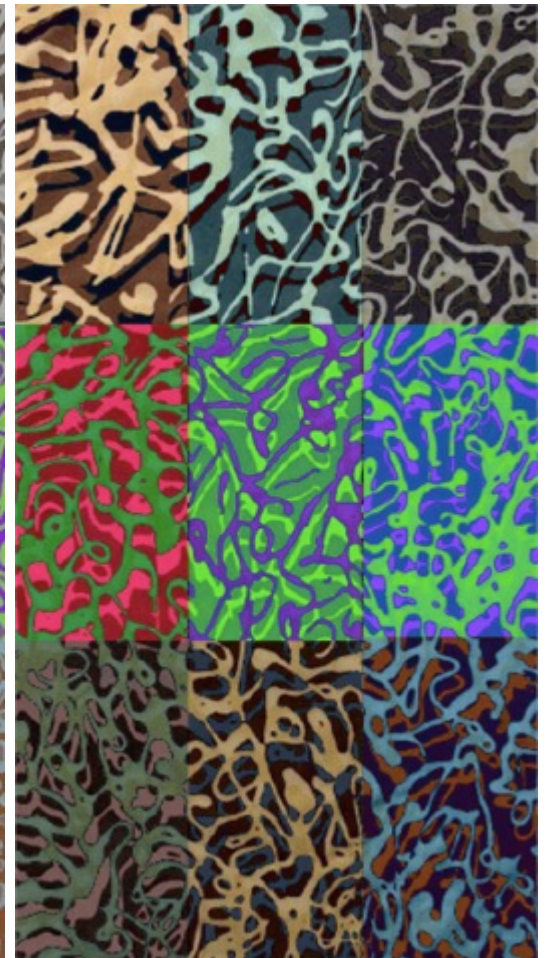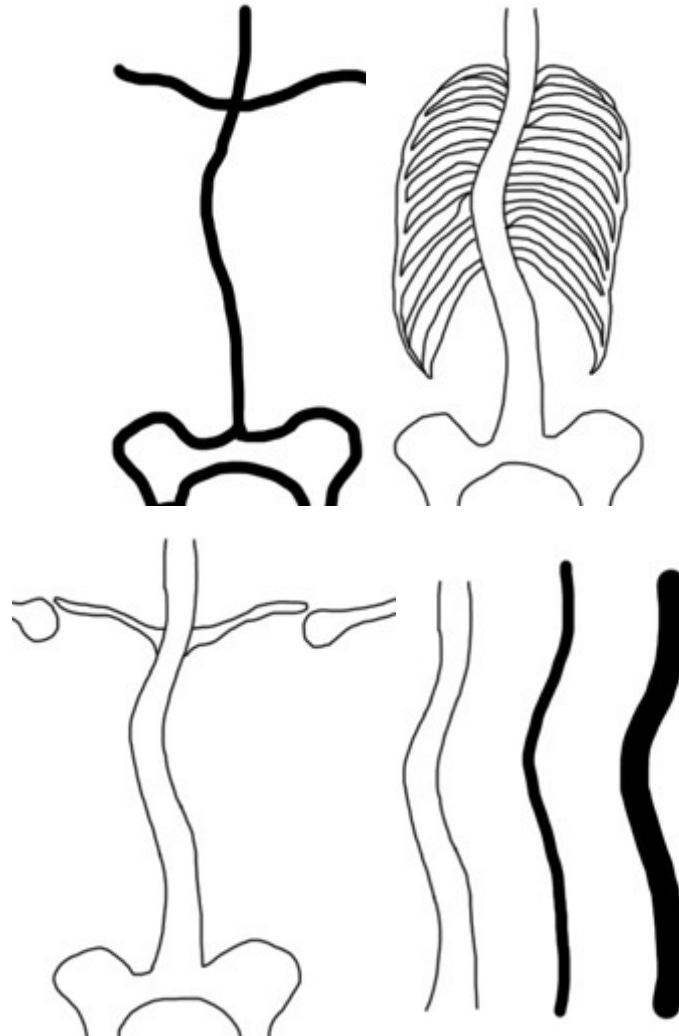
exclusion   *difference*   *exclusion*   *difference*

Getting inspiration from images of my X-rays, looking at the shape of my spine and body before my operation:


I decided to incorporate my recent surgery into my textiles work. In February I had spinal fusion surgery to correct my scoliosis, my spine was twisted as well as curved at a 40 degree angle.

Due to my recovery I will have to complete this project from home and digitally, this will meant that I will be creating digital prints again and working in the same ways that I did when we were in lockdown.

I was able to get all my images of myself pre and post operation. The X-rays here are my 'before' images, I took them into Photoshop and traced in a basic way and outlined the shapes of my ribs and spine.

Getting inspiration from images of my X-rays after my operation, looking at the differences of my body now and how the metal screws and rods have impacted my spine:
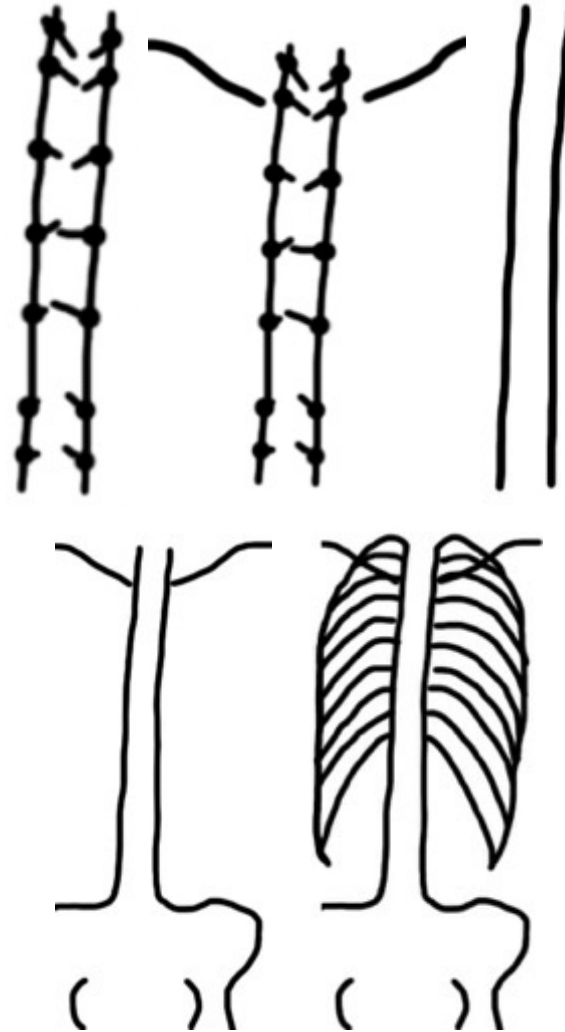
These digital drawings were created by using the method of outlining my X-ray images of after my surgery. The textured and lighter parts of my spine show where the metal rods and screws now are in my spine. I have 4 metal rods and 24 screws which fused 11 vertebrae from T3 to L1, I now have a 32cm long scar down my back.

I outlined the shape of my new spine and the shape of the metal work. I was intrigued to see the comparison of everything that had moved and changed after surgery.

This X-ray was taken a couple of days after my operation so when I have another X-ray that is more up to date my spine and torso will be different again.

Zooming into X-rays and picking out shapes and patterns for my digital prints:

After going through all of my scans, I selected a few X-ray images of myself and zoomed into them. The first image on the left is during my operation, an X-ray has been taken whilst they have my skin opened up an the dark tool is an opening clamp. I find all the line like shapes very interesting but I don't know what they are!
The other images are of X-rays of my torso before surgery, I'm intrigued by the almost marble like patterns in my stomach area and in my chest. I have tried to research what it could be from, the only possible answers that I think the patterns could be from is either, arteries and veins pumping blood and the other image could possibly be the contras and outlines of my intestines.
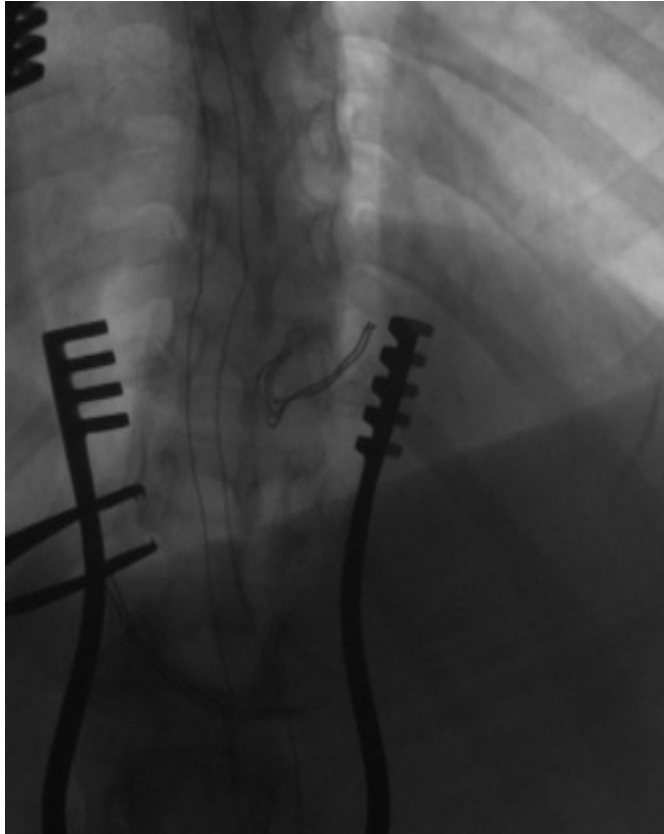
*This image is of my spine and rib cage during the operation:*
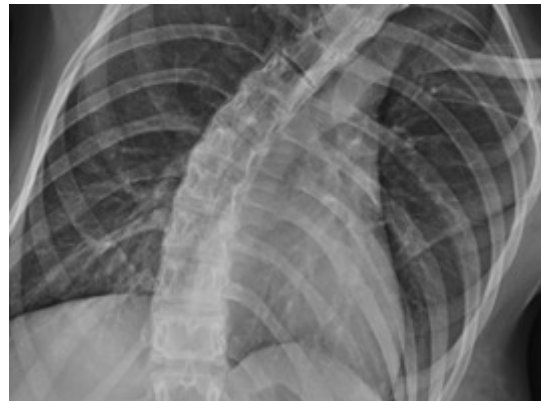
The marble like patterns in these images interest me, thinking of how I can replicate a similar pattern for my prints:

Tracing zoomed in X-ray images to make them into patterns for my digital prints:

After finding the patterns that I wanted to look into, I took the X-ray images and turn up the contrast of them to make the pattern more clear. Once the pattern was more obvious to see, I used a simple paint brush tool on Photoshop and outlined the pattern.

I wanted quite simple and flat patterns as I knew I wanted to layer them, I didn't want a particularly busy pattern as I thought that it might be a bit overwhelming to layer the patterns together.

Layering my patterns will be a reflection of the layering that I had done in my physical screen printed sampled from the last project. I wanted to be inspired by some of the methods and outcomes that I had, overlaying the digital patterns I create will add an element of depth to the prints as I find digital prints can sometimes look very flat and like it only has one dimension.
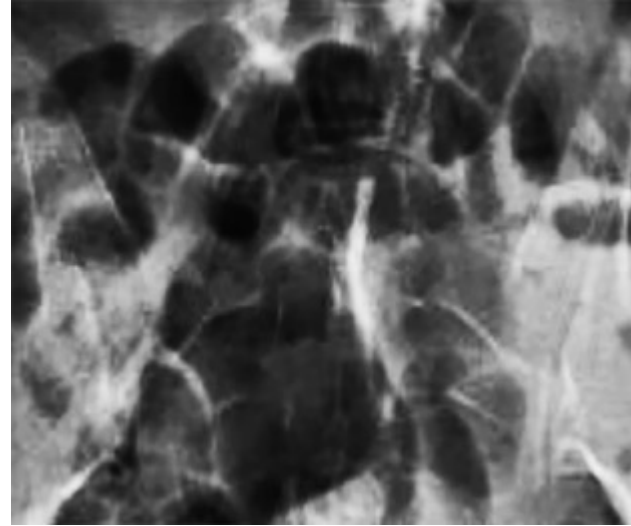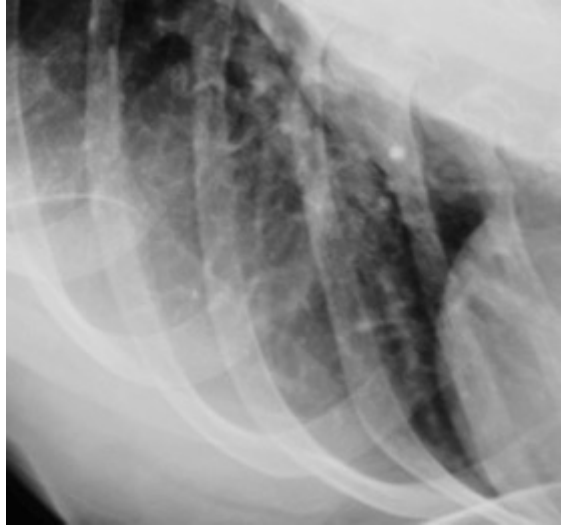
Looking at images from various MRI scans I had, zooming into areas of the scans I took the shapes and created a block print pattern:

I felt like I had created as many outcomes as I could with the patterns that I had. I decided to go back to my X-rays and MRI scans to get more inspiration and to find more patterns and shapes. After zooming into the MRI scans, I found some unique and really abstract shapes! The MRI image was taken from the top of my head looking down my spine at a birds eye view angle.

I know that the shapes and patterns created by the scans aren't obvious to what the inspiration is, initially I wanted the viewer to be able to tell what I was inspired by from the shapes I used. But now I think that if the viewer is told the inspiration after and what each element represents I think it gives it a nicer sense of subtly and a more personal feel to my work.
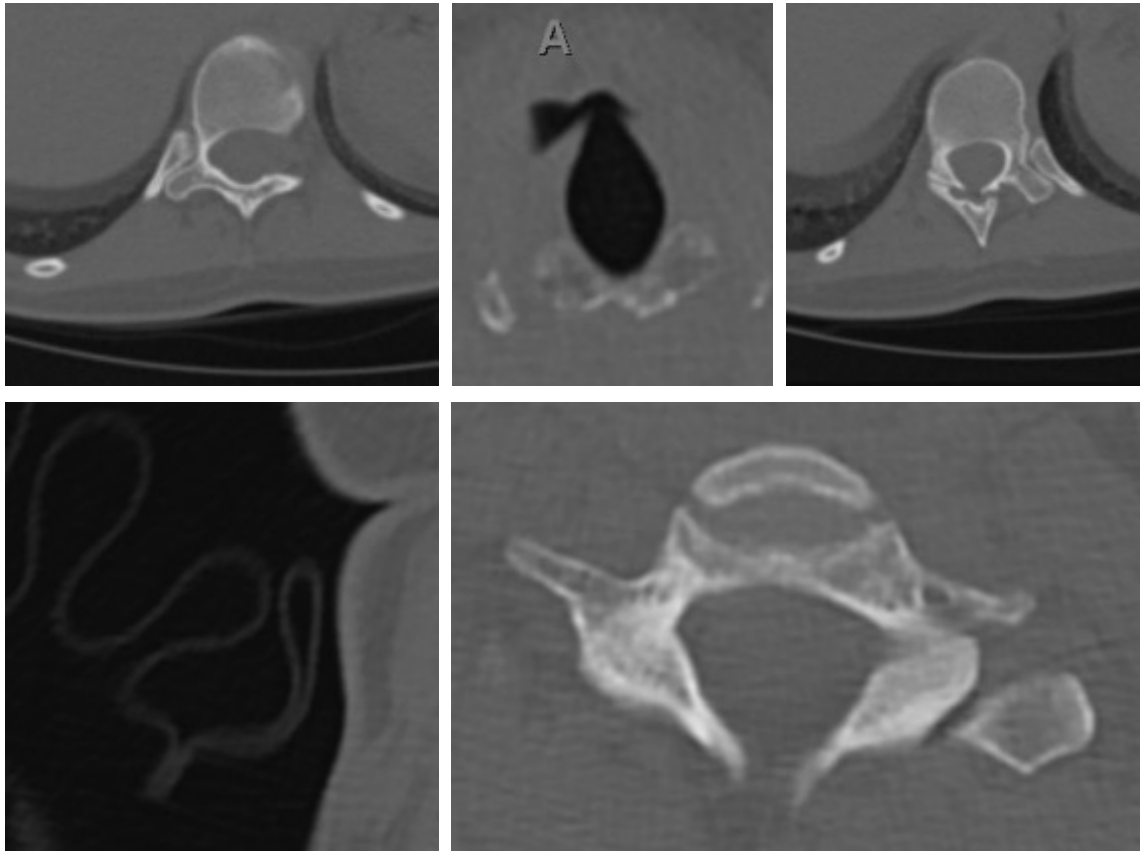
Taking all the patterns that I have created so far and
changing the dynamics of the prints to show variation:

Now that I had another layer to work with and to incorporate into my prints, I started to do the same thing by altering the layering
of the patterns and trying different colour ways within each print.
Using the right colours was important as I still wanted the hint of a vibrant colour but I didn't want it to be too strong or for it to
overpower the other muted colours. I wanted the patterns to be the main point of focus so I had to make sure that I was having a
small part of the patterns as the neon colours, I didn't want the bright colours to take away from the shapes of the patterns.
I also zoomed into different parts of the pattern which changed the scale of the print, I thought that the ribs pattern would look
better if it was taking up all the background on the print.
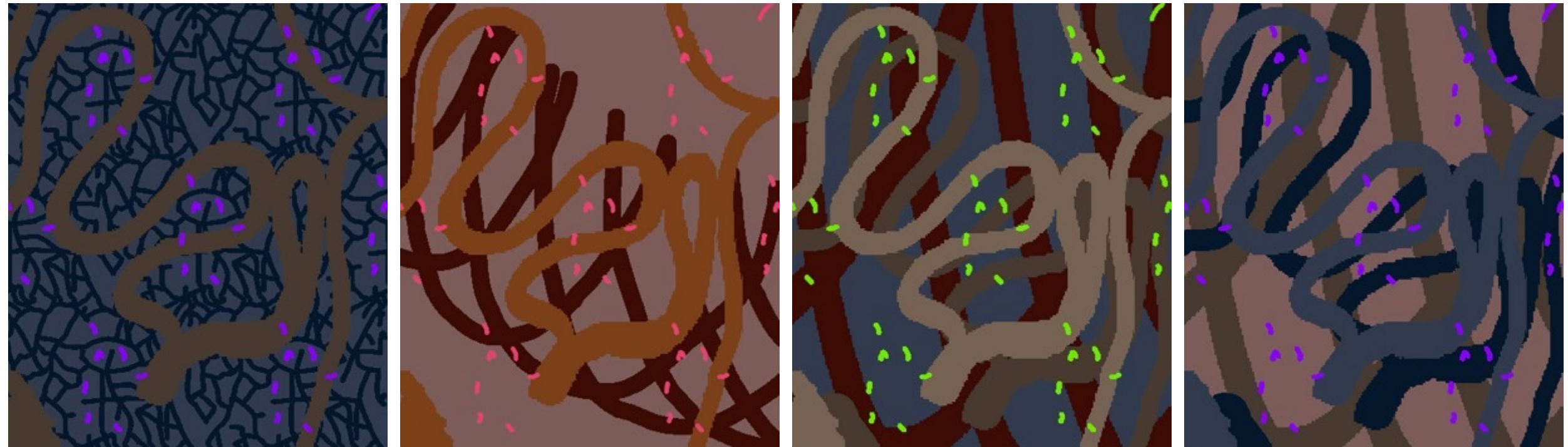
Taking two different colour ways of the same digital print
and made them into a simple repeat pattern:

After I had the right composition of the pattern layers, I began to think about how I could take my prints further and what they would be used for.

I took the original digital print and started to turn it into a repeatable print. This print proved to be really difficult and was one of the more complex repeated prints I've done, so many aspects had to be altered so that it would work at different edges, while still trying to keep the pattern as close to the original shape as possible.

Once I had the right pattern I also tried it in a different colour way, having one with warm toned colours and the other with cool toned blues and greys.

Altering colour scheme:

After looking at my fashion context, I found the full Dior Men collection that I had originally been inspired by. I chose to alter my colour scheme and to take more colour inspiration from the Spring collection, I took colours from the three images of outfits from the collection to make a Dior colour scheme. I then compared my original colour scheme next to the Dior colour scheme to compare the types of shades and tones I was using and how my colours differed.

Personally, I like how the Dior collection looked at 'femininity' in Menswear, I think that a lot of the elements that are in this collection are quite stereotypically feminine and I think the way that they have paired it with different aspects of 'masculine' elements creates a strong look. The floral patterns, dusky pink shades and soft silky materials are all typically 'feminine' aspects of fashion, but I love how this Dior collection have made these elements masculine and show that fashion is a gender neutral thing.

DIOR MEN – Spring 2022 Menswear:

Dior colour scheme: *My original colour scheme:*

Altering colour scheme:

Taking my original colour scheme and the Dior colour scheme, I created my inspired colour scheme. I took a mix of pink shades and a range different toned browns and beiges, I had a sage green as well as a neon pink and green for the pop of bright colour. I then added the new colour schemes to my layers of patterns, I tried different colour ways to see which colours suited which pattern the best. For example, I wanted the MRI pattern to be doubled and work as a shadowed effect to give depth to the print, this then meant that there were specific colours that I could use so that the shadowed layer was a darker shade than the top layers colour.

I found that certain colours worked better as certain parts of the print, I preferred using the green as a background colour as I think that it is a good gender neutral colour as it is trending a lot at the moment and I felt that the green was the only colour that worked well with all the other colours that I was using.

My alternate colour scheme inspired by Dior Men – Spring 2022 Menswear collection:

Trying my pattern with the new Dior inspired colour scheme:

I wanted to first come up with the composition that I wanted to use before I decided on the colours that I wanted to have in my final print. I knew I wanted to incorporate as many layers as possible without the print looking overwhelming as so that the colours enhanced the patterns and didn't take away from them.
I decided to use a zoomed in version of my ribs pattern as a background pattern and then to have the MRI patterns in a shadowed effect, so using two layers that were slightly off centred with the each other. The last pattern on top is the smallest one to enhance the print with the neon colour, I wanted this to be small and I only wanted a hint of the bright colour so it wasn't overwhelming.

New colour scheme and textured quality of line prints:

I started to sample new colour ways with the textured lines, looking at how the new colours looked with the textured lines changed the dynamics of my print. Using a darker colour for the spray paint mark makes it look like a diffused shadow from the layer above it, the use of the same pattern in different layers creates a sense of illusion of depth in my digital print. The drip print layer has changed slightly compared to the original pattern, it was taken from the disconnected part of my intestine outline pattern. Using the small drip patterned allowed me to have a small layer to include the bright neon colour in the print, I like the scale of the neon pattern compared to the rest of the print as it isn't overwhelming and doesn't take away from the other layers.

I asked for a male friends opinion of the pattern and the colour schemes that I've used. It was important for me to find out how a man would see these colours, I think it is easier for colours to be more 'feminine' as there aren't the same type of stereotypes as there are towards men and wearing 'female' colours, typically like pink. He thought that the darker colours with the greens and browns reminded him of camo or army prints which are always typically masculine. But he also thought that the pale pink wasn't too feminine as many men's shirts are a soft pink colour, and that the green would balance it out.

Gender neural fashion, breaking boundaries in menswear and fluid fashion:

White Satin Tailored Jacket - £450
https://www.houseofholland.co.uk/products/white-satin-tailored-jacket?variant=28728598167631

After being inspired by the Dior Men Spring 2019 Menswear collection, I started to design my prints in a gender neutral mindset. I wanted my colour palette and pattern to be gender fluid so that my pint can be available for every person. Once I began designing for a gender fluid outcome, I looked at my fashion context suiting the same outcome. I think that blazers are a very gender neutral clothing piece, they can be worn in a variety of ways, fitted, oversized, cropped, I think that this style of garment is suited for gender neutral fashion as it can suit anyone.

"As we recently discussed in our piece about genderless fashion, consumer tides are shifting in favor of clothing options less rigidly defined by one's gender. To that end, One DNA is a New York-based label that launched about three years ago as a result of co-founder Travis Weaver's dissatisfaction with the divide between men's and women's collections in stores.

"The pieces in our collections can be masculine or feminine depending on the wearer and the way they style a look, the way they feel in the moment," says fellow co-founder Simon Black. "Furthermore, doing away with labels allows people to try something they might not have otherwise tried and removes any potentially uncomfortable issues for people who are non-binary."" https://www.highsnobiety.com/p/one-dna-genderless-suiting/

I want my outcome to break down fashion boundaries, it is important to me that my print is open for everyone to wear.

Gender neural fashion, breaking boundaries in menswear and fluid fashion:

Playtime With Harry Styles – Vouge magazine cover, November 2020

As I am looking at a gender-neutral print and garment production, I have entered my print into the *Harris Reed x Klarna* competition which was looking for sustainable, fluid fashion designs.

Harris Reed is a gender-neutral fashion designer, they have collaborated with celebrities such as; Solange Knowles, Ezra Miller and Harry Styles. Styles has become a well-known icon for his gender fluid fashion looks, but the way he expresses himself has come with "extreme controversy following the release of Styles' cover, with some declaring an end to the gender binary and embracing a new wave of androgynous fashion, while others viewed it as an extreme push away from traditional masculinity."

https://www.mylondon.news/lifestyle/fashion/who-harris-reed-harry-styles-19856932

Harris Reed has styled and dressed Styles on many occasions, Reed is a gender fluid fashion designer whose garments and fashion style engages looks and people to stare. Reed believes that "fashion is truly revolutionary and has a huge role to play in pushing the world to a more expressive and accepting place"
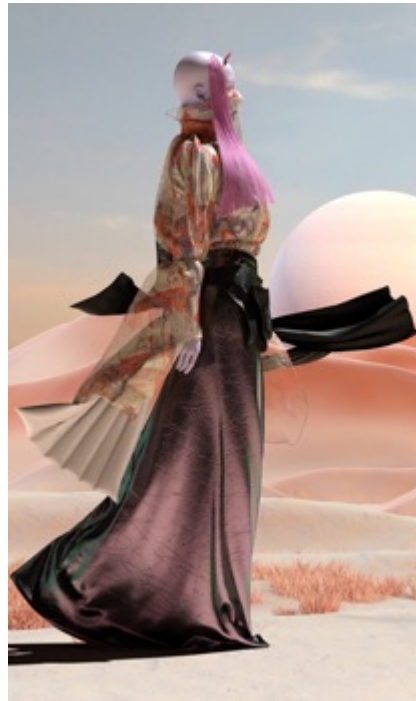
https://www.mylondon.news/lifestyle/fashion/who-harris-reed-harry-styles-19856932

I think that Reed's fashion fluidity is very important to society, fashion is very much like art and in today's world why can't people wear whatever they want to.

Digital fashion inspiration and my future:

Digital fashion designer Amber Jae Slooten's work has inspired me to join the digital world. She is the creative director "of the world's first digital fashion house" https://www.friendsoffriends.com/fashion/the-creative-director-of-the-worlds-first-digital-fashion-house-selects-five-era-defining-moments-from-science-fiction/ and some of her work is shown in the images below.

The digital design world is becoming more relevant to me as my Master's Degree next year is specialising in Digital Fashion. The digital prints that I'm creating currently is a different style of digital work compared to the ways I will work whilst doing my Master's, I'm currently designing with the mindset that these prints could be replicated in a physical way and that my different layers can be used with screens and different print pastes. Whereas, on my Digital Fashion course I will be designing digitally for digital use, the garments I will be creating will only ever be digital and I will have to change my creative thinking when it comes to it.


Outfit from the digital fashion collection 'DEEP'
https://www.friendsoffriends.com/fashion/the-creative-director-of-the-worlds-first-digital-fashion-house-selects-five-era-defining-moments-from-science-fiction/

Fabricant's Iridescence dress sold at auction for $9,500
https://www.dezeen.com/2020/10/23/virtual-fashion-amber-jae-slooten-the-fabricant/?li_source=LI&li_medium=bottom_block_1
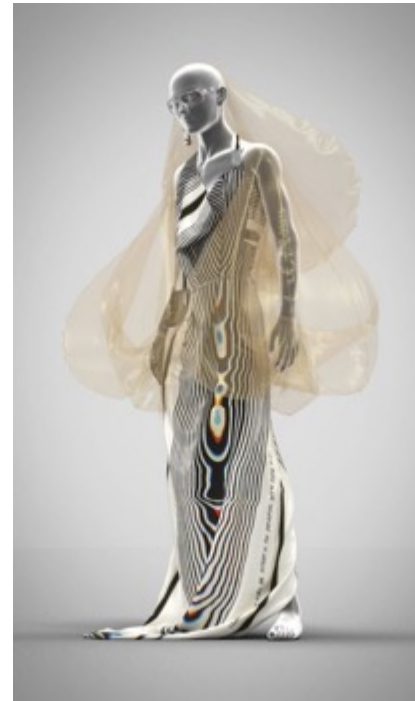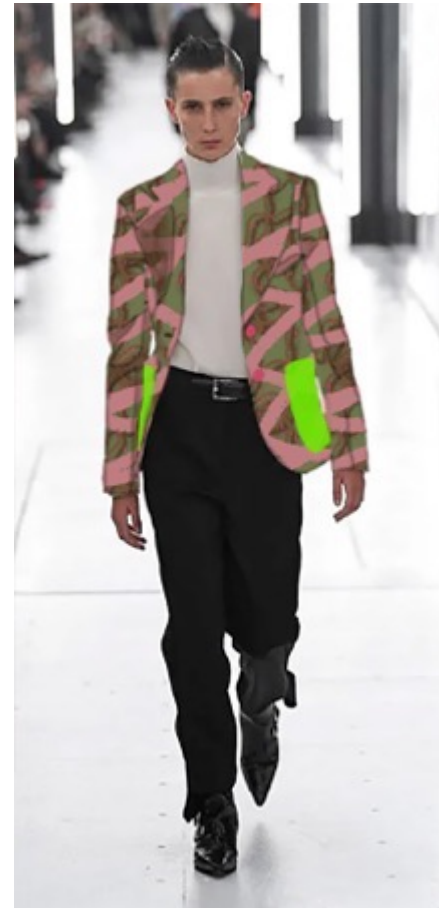
The virtual clothes are designed to drape like physical garments
https://www.dezeen.com/2020/10/23/virtual-fashion-amber-jae-slooten-the-fabricant/?li_source=LI&li_medium=bottom_block_1

Using prints from past project and new colour scheme to see the possible outcomes of new samples:

I chose to design my print for a fashion context and wanted to display my print on a blazer as I thought it was a garment that was very gender neutral and can be styled and worn in many different ways; oversized, cropped, fitted. Blazers are very trendy in fashion at the moment and I wanted to display my print on a piece of clothing that could help the pattern be as inclusive as possible. I also experimented with many variations to find the perfect colour scheme, I wanted to use colours that would break stereotypes of garments being too feminine or masculine due to the colours in the pattern. It was important for me to have the right shades that created a gender fluid print, I wanted all genders to be able to wear the pattern.

https://www.123rf.com/clipart-vector/bespoke_suit.html?sti=o67uygwuvqcpupi14ol   https://www.highsnobiety.com/p/louis-vuitton-spring-2019/

Swapping around the layers of final print to create new
final outcome of repeatable pattern:

For my final piece of my project, I have digitally designed a gender neutral print based off of current and trending gender fluid colours and my patterns have been inspired by my recent spinal fusion surgery to correct my scoliosis. I layered the different pattern from the scans of myself to reflect the different layers of our bodies. MRI scans show soft tissues and muscles and the X-rays show bones, I wanted my layering to reflect the layers that are in our bodies. I ordered it as if you were looking out from the inside, the X-ray pattern is first and then the MRI pattern, the layering of different patterns can translate to our bodies, showing one layer at a time.