



Advertiser (Adelaide)

Thursday 16/03/2017

Page: 4  
Section: General News  
Region: Adelaide, AU  
Circulation: 128230  
Type: Capital City Daily  
Size: 281.00 sq.cms.



**slice**  
CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip

# Sophie's world of emotion on show

**TIM WILLIAMS**

SOPHIE Horvat's striking self-portrait was a way of expressing her emotional reaction to the sudden death of her mother.

The St Ignatius College graduate's mum Leonie, 54, died from a blood clot in a lung last June.

Sophie's charcoal and oil work, selected for the SACE Art Show at the Adelaide College of the Arts, was completed during "the most raw experience" of the months after the tragedy.

"I was going through that period when you are a bit fearful of how you are going to develop, what your personality is going to be, after going through something like that," Sophie, 18, told *The Advertiser*.

"It was about the unknown nature of life from that point forward."

In her written statement accompanying the painting, she said it was "mimicking the distant feeling experienced in various stages of grief", by using "a blank gaze directed at the audi-

ence, drawing viewers yet also alienating them through my vacant expression".

With the support of friends, family and teachers through the rest of Year 12, Sophie achieved a uni entrance rank of 95.2 and is now studying Communication Design at UniSA.

"I was in Year 12 so you have to keep going," she said. Sophie added that if she were to do another self-portrait

now, it would be "a lot less melancholy" and "a celebration" of the influence her mum, a nurse, had on her.

She said art would remain a hobby while she pursued a career in graphic design.

The SACE Art Show, opening on Saturday, will feature 148 works by last year's Year 12s. The six-week annual exhibition usually attracts about 5000 visitors.

Education Minister Susan Close said some past exhibitors had "become leaders in the arts in SA and around the world".



**Advertiser (Adelaide)**

**Thursday 16/03/2017**

Page: 4  
Section: General News  
Region: Adelaide, AU  
Circulation: 128230  
Type: Capital City Daily  
Size: 281.00 sq.cms.



**slice**  
CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip



**ARRESTING:** Sophie Horvat with her striking self-portrait.

Picture: ROY VANDERVEGT