

Portfolio



This is a three piece performance

1. Potato clock
2. In the flow of knowing and unlearning
3. The ritual

Website - <https://artbyarora.net>

Degree show webpage- <https://www.yourperspective.art/aashna-arora/>

Potato clock



An 18- hour performance of chopping potatoes and taking a photograph after every 60 chops.

It is inspired by the idea of being present in time and doing just one thing, where the body takes over. It also involved some feminist and Indian culture aesthetics.

In the flow of knowing and unlearning



These are of three small performances that helped me realise my core beliefs and understand life – digging deeper than just being present and seeing what I have experienced that made me 'me'.

The ritual



The final part of the three-part performance is called 'A Ritual.' The ritual was a 24-hour performance which ended up being only 18-hour performance due to human error and was recorded live and documented in the form of a short video. It was a looping ritual where the artist would wear the same clothes (which keep deteriorating) and perform the same ritual with cigarettes, milk, ash, rotten mogra flowers and the element of dreads/braids taken from the previous project - in the flow of knowing and unlearning.

Aashna is inspired by the idea of meditation, peace and serenity. She has been influenced by her Indian cultural roots and has taken rituals that supposedly bring peace and calm and contrasted them with impure objects while keeping the actions involved in the rituals the same.

The idea behind this is exploring the nihilist theory where if one believes everything that we explored in the earlier two performances and if one strips all the beliefs away and just be present– the idea is that consciousness is the freedom of our being and perhaps consciousness is nothingness. So the actions represent the stripping of beliefs and getting close to consciousness but also explore the idea that one is never free from the beliefs and hence the looping of the project. The actions although derived from the pious Indian rituals mean nothing.