

Me and Johnny

Me and Johnny interrogates traditional ideas of masculinity, attempting to analyse the rigid confines and unspoken taboos within the culture. By approaching this topic with both humour and elegance I attempt to assert my own fluctuating identity with heterosexuality. I seek to unfold toxic masculinity and shine a light on continuous subliminal messaging.

In many cultures wrestling is a sport where the athlete needs to prove themselves worthy, measuring their masculinity through brutality and strength. It is a centuries old tradition that combines touch and embrace with aggression and athleticism. By depicting a series of choreographed wrestling moves, this series interrupts the notion of the sport as bloodthirsty and callous, and imbues a sense of tenderness.

Johnny smiles ironically as he is continuously pinned down naked and castrated. His nudity exposes his unabashed vulnerability, and his flexibility in the wrestling positions demonstrates constant resilience. Meanwhile the wrestler, clothed and determined, continues to pin the doll, and overcome the asinine smile. Even now the match continues.