Artmaking Practice refers to the series of actions taken by artist in the production of their artwork. These actions are the consequential outcomes of decisions made by the artist. In the production of art, artists make choices and take action on a number of issues. When investigating the practice of an artist, we need to consider all the significant elements influencing and involved with the production of an artwork. When we look at the practice of an artist or designer we discover:

a) The artist’s working methods  
b) The development of his or her style  
c) What the artist is influenced by  
d) What the artists intention is in his or her artmaking  
e) The frames within which the artists works


Vince Papa has used images he has downloaded from video footage he has taken of anonymous figures going about their daily lives in public places. He has created stills using digital technology to emphasize the withdrawal and isolation of people in places where the general public commune. Papa’s work suggests the necessity to withdraw from or evade, where necessary, other human contact. In one image there is a woman at a railway station, who is sitting on a bench neatly tucked behind a drink machine away from the contact or view of anyone else present. Papa has also deliberately blurred the image to achieve an affect similar to what one may see through a surveillance camera. Here figures are caught unaware and the viewer has the vantage point of a voyeur. Papa’s work displays a kind of melancholy that is an integral part of the human condition.

Extract 2: Artist Statement

This series of work (Wait, Watch, Listen, Trudge) stems from an investigation of public space. I was very much influenced by the work of Bill Henson. I was also influenced by the anonymity of big cities. We can choose interact with one another or live our lives unnoticed. I carried a video camera on a train trip into the city. On reviewing the footage, I was drawn more to the scenes I had set by accident, The things I hadn’t noticed, became the most intriguing ... a moving train, people sitting alone absorbed in their thoughts and drained of energy. I took the video stills and manipulated them in Photoshop ... Intensified colours and made the images even less identifiable. The groupings came about based on colour and the actions the subjects are engaged in. They were then printed on canvas because I felt that a glossy medium would make the images look too much like advertisements. Amongst other things, I wanted to communicate a sense of isolation. How we can be so close to one another yet so so distant. How routine can drain our energy - make us impatient and cynical. We pursue happiness with such intensity, that it makes us miserable.
VINCE PAPA: ARTMAKING PRACTICE

Influences:

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Themes:

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Working Methods:

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Intentions:

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Personal Symbols:

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Frames:

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