

## Visualizing the irrational

### Abstract

This research investigates irrational thought in response to aggression and fear and how this may be visualized as an external skin. It considers historical, psychoanalytical and philosophical texts that discuss the uncanny, repression and shadows. These concepts aim to form the layers of these artworks in relation to irrationality.

Starting at the uncanny, the art works created rely on a metamorphosis and contortion of the flesh. These deformations are intrinsically linked to the feelings of unease and unfamiliarity. Coexisting alongside this is the repression of past experiences, which manifest as a fragmentation of thought, memory and feeling; which is portrayed in the artworks as a cracking or erosion on the surface of the physical body. As the body transfigures through the unease of the uncanny, it begins eroding away due to repressed trauma and psychological pain. The shadow thus emerges and projects itself as multiple positions around the stagnated body. This is based on the idea of one's perception and grasp of reality being broken down, where movement and thought are separated. As a result of the feelings associated with the uncanny, repression and shadow, one's reality begins to distort and allows for overreaction to situations and events through aggression and fear.