An Explanation of Mannerisms

Emilie Gaultier, Advisor Lauren Selden
Photography by Megan Marcantel and Jennifer Rogers

I have found through sociological research and observations that body language defines how people perceive us. The importance of the first handshake, the manner we bring our hands together while talking, or the way students use their fist to rest their chin while in class all these mannerisms explain to the potential employer, the vivid listener, or the professor how we feel without consciously knowing. The purpose of my work is to expand awareness to young professionals towards the implications of their presented body language.

The Perfect Handshake forces the wearer and shaker to use a firm grip with one another in order to fit the piece between their hands. This promotes a confident handshake that reflects strength of character on either side.

The Chin Ring is worn on the middle finger and is a perfect place to set the chin when feeling uninterested. Its physical weight creates a constant reminder to stay focused and not let ennui show by placing the chin on the ring.

The piece called Hand Positioning, can be worn as an ornamental ring or taken off and used as a guide for placing hands in a power pose. By shifting the position of the ring, the wearer consciously maintains the open and powerful pose.

This “gag inspired” piece is a representation of psychological mannerisms. When a person is dishonest, they become burdened by their own tales. This piece is a reminder of the emotional handicap that results from dishonesty.

This piece is a visual representation of the desire for self protection by preventing society from understanding the wearer’s facial expressions.

The Fake Smile presents to the world how detrimental it can be to lie to ourselves and others about emotional happiness. My research revealed that a fictitious smile can emotionally damage the person showing it.