Art of Pathology Competition 2019
Commended Entries – Captions

Ayse Akarca, ‘HeterGeneity’
This artwork was inspired when I was working on a research project based on lung cancer, where two different types of lung tumours in a patient sample were investigated. The patchy structure of lung tissue, which is presented by different colours, shows the distribution of the investigated molecules through the immunohistochemistry techniques. While the fine columns show the molecular structure of the tissue.

Kabilan Arivanandan, ‘Disease in in the Detail
Acrylic on Paper/ Size 42 by 59.4cm (A2)

View this illustration of Rudolf Virchow like a pathologist. Take a deep look inside and find both the obvious and that which requires insight. Then, question yourself. That is what Pathology is to me. I hope it wasn’t just the lines of Zahn on his bow tie you noticed. Instead, why is there a man strolling across the frame of his glasses? Are they even glasses? Does that beard look like a tree upside-down?

Path, the very first letters of the word Pathology defines the nature of this discipline (represented by the walking man). Pathology is a journey for both patients and professionals- the destination being good healthcare. Pathology studies progression and what better way to represent this than through the growth of trees, one which imitates Angiogenesis. And as for the glasses, notice it objectifies a stethoscope and the creases of the skin, just above, locate a conical flask. After all, Pathology bridges (relevantly on the nasal bridge) Medicine with Science.

Konstantinos Devetzis, ‘Breaking the Microscope Slide Ceiling’
Sex equality is gaining momentum in many aspects in the modern world, including medicine; women are facing less and less discrimination regarding their abilities at work. There is still a lot of room for improvement, but this artwork celebrates the breakthroughs of strong women in pathology leading the way for the women after them. The vintage style reminds the viewer of the progress made from women from the old times to now, while the microscope images serve to highlight the more literal meaning of a different “point of view”.

Due to the nature of the medium utilised, below there is a reference list for the images used in the digital image collage.

Reference list


“Scanning Electron Micrograph of a Stereocilliary Bundle from the Utricle.” Basicmedical Key, 2016, basicmedicalkey.com/inner-ear/.


Maisie Saunders, ‘Recognition: Human and AI’
In my digital art, I have demonstrated the use of AI in pathology diagnosis through MRI scanning. When combined with human analysis from pathologists this leads to almost 100% accuracy, preventing missed diagnoses that can continue to develop, demonstrated in the transverse brain slice. This technique gives a new perspective to diagnosis and treatment.

Neha Sadik, ‘Cellular Night’
I am a medical student in my 3rd year who did not appreciate the relationship between art and medicine until very recently, and I believe pathology is the best example of the 2 combined. When I saw the Starry Night recently, the stars reminded me of squamous cell carcinomas so I thought of combining the 2, imagining the village people looking up at cells, the building blocks of life.

Paula Heister, ‘Light Microscope’
This work has its subject the microscope in its classic form as used by the pioneers of pathology. In the field of view is M. tuberculosis discovered by Robert Koch using such a microscope. The combination of traditional and digital medium mirrors the increasing utilisation of digitalised and automated processes in pathology itself.

Rute Noiva, ‘The Beautiful Abnormal’
Pathology sees beauty in what normality finds repugnant. This photo carries the contrast between the peaceful, well-developed top half of this chicken embryo and the malformed abdomen, with the liver, heart and gizzard exposed. A beautiful budding life unaware of the impeding deadly consequence of its malformations.