

When beginning the compilation of my artwork, I wanted my portfolio to embody a consistent theme of provoking thought in the viewer. I wanted the art I created to cause a viewer to think twice about what they were seeing and consider it on a deeper level. Weaving my personal experiences and mindsets into my portfolio was also a goal of mine when constructing my portfolio. Using my personal experiences and the reflection of my place in life as inspiration gave me the ability to present my internal dialogue visually. My artwork was directed towards converting my internal dialogue into a thought-provoking piece of art.

Throughout the two years of constructing this portfolio, I experienced a great deal of change mentally, emotionally, spiritually, and even physically. All of these events and the flow of change and growth served as my biggest inspiration. I created my block print "*Right Side Up*" in a period where I often thought of perspective and the false dichotomy of truth. I wanted to create a piece that seems simple but has more complexity in the meaning that can be derived. "*Transference*" was a piece made with a focus on the relationships and interactions between people. It was inspired by relationships between people with an overabundance of negative energy, and those wanting to help heal people.

The mediums I used during my portfolio were largely digital or mediums like etching and print-work. Paint is not a medium I enjoy working with very much. I experimented with it for a handful of projects to build my skill set, but I still more avidly used other mediums. Photography and digital collage are some of my favorite mediums because they are very easily manipulated. With a lot of mediums, I am limited by what I can do with my hands and there is no possibility of isolating certain parts of a piece or going back. Digital formats allow me to create a wide variety of illusions, overlays, and photo manipulations. These methods are seen heavily in my senior year works such as "*Celestial Connection*" "*Fading Out*."

A lot of my works from my senior year are inspired by the state of the world at that time. The environment of being in the middle of a global pandemic, economic fluctuation, and civil unrest served as fuel for artworks that demonstrated my feelings and perspective towards the situation. "*Fading Out*" was inspired by my feelings towards coming of age in this period and the digital medium allowed the versatility I wanted to demonstrate the meaning. Being forced inside for the majority of my time and somewhat isolated also gave me inspiration for my artwork. I often had nothing to do except focus on myself and my place in the world, and my artwork ended up reflecting that. "*Above*" and "*Celestial Connection*" were both points of spiritual expansion and I wanted to reflect them in my artwork. More colorful and therapeutic methods like digital painting and spray paint became something I gravitated towards.

My latest works are still very heavily influenced by my experiences. In my future works, I want to continue reflecting on my point in life. I also want to further my skill set with spray paint and its accepted application in a controlled formal artistic environment. My portfolio is meant to be almost a journey. The pieces together show my growth, decline, and movement through the last two years of my life. This 2 year period is still relatively small and I want my future portfolio to further this reflection of perspective. I want to experiment more with sculpture because it was an area in my portfolio that I didn't explore as much as I wanted. I think sculpture would be a

medium I would benefit from due to the hands-on nature and the direct hand to art connection. I want to continue to grow my artistic skills with as many mediums as possible so I can communicate my perspectives of life, in as many ways as possible, in a thought-provoking manner.