

PORT FOLIO

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eunoia



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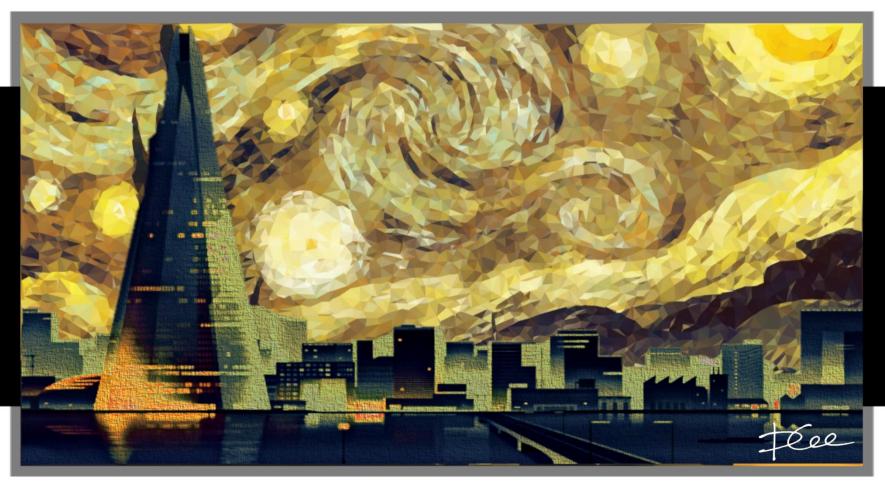
Art Appropriation

WHALIEN52

Personal Mandala

As a Filipino citizen, I want to convey through this political art the symbolism that best depicts one of the issues plaguing our society in today's generation. I intended to show how the Filipinos, following the creation of the Anti-Terrorism Law, began to feel silenced and terrorized. The focus of this work is on the figure lurking behind and the individual who's being silenced and engulfed with fear. This artwork depicted the ongoing abuse/threat lurking around, leading one to sink into a fearful abyss. The constant broadcasting of horrendous crimes/fatalities tied to the law makes an individual feel constrained, frightened, and silenced for his/her thoughts. This law made use of "redtagging", in which people with no authority who simply want to speak out against the government's duplicity are targeted. The government seeks to keep the people under control by emphasizing that those who try to expose the government's corruption may easily be red-tagged and may face death. I intended this piece to show how people's freedom of expression has been obstructed and taken from those who yearns for better changes. We must never forget that laws are there to safeguard people's rights and safety, not the other way around.





This piece, dubbed "Dreary Incandescence," is my take on Vincent van Gogh's painting The Starry Night (1889). This piece was made through the integration of digital art not only because it has become one of the most widely utilized mediums for making many forms of artwork in today's society, but also to emphasize how the world has progressed toward modernity over time. A digitalized with a bit of mosaic style of art is the result of the appropriated artwork and despite the stylistic differences, the appropriated artwork and the original piece still bear a distinctive likeness. Unlike the original piece, Dreary Incandescence used a warmer and darker color scheme to depict the immense changes that our world has seen over time. The yellow palette represents the global warming phenomenon that we are currently experiencing. The darker color scheme depicts the dreary mood that we are presently facing as the global epidemic continues to impact our daily lives. To depict modernization, the infrastructures in the original piece were also replaced with newer buildings. The buildings were coated with a fabric texture to give the impression that they were painted on a canvas cloth to pay homage to traditional art style despite our present fascination with digital art. Dreary Incandescence depicts the experience of realizing and recognizing the changes we've had so far by looking at the same sky at different times.



WHALIEN 52 | 2021

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The name "Whalien 52" was created by combining the phrases "52-hertz whale" and "alien." The 52-hertz whale was regarded to be the world's loneliest whale, singing at a decibel level well above that of any other whale. It sings too loudly to be heard, isolating it from the rest of society. Whenever I looked at the symmetrical design of the mandala that I had produced, I see creativity in the form of a budding flower and at the same time, I also felt a sense of loneliness. The 52-hertz whale swimming in the water is the centerpiece of my mandala, which represents unbridled creativity, music, and loneliness. I chose this since I do not receive any support from my family when it comes to expressing myself through songs and creative artworks that I produce. My mandala's inner layers mostly represent my creative side, while the final and outside layer symbolizes a fence to represent the feeling of being fully alienated from people and trapped in solitude. The colors I chose were a cycle of bright and dark violet and blue tones to convey the feeling of trying passionately but ultimately failing and being entirely ignored in the end. My mandala depicts my creativity, loneliness, and the pain of speaking but not being heard, of being questioned but never understood. Even if I can't reach my family right now, no matter how loudly I scream, I'll keep going in circles and blooming like a delicate flower, expressing not only my creativity but also myself in the hopes of one day being heard.

In creating these artworks, I would frequently integrate my personal ideas and emotions toward particular themes or contemporary occurrences that affect us in today's world. When I was creating my advocacy art, I primarily focused on expressing how I felt about the Anti-Terrorism Law as well as how it affected the people in my community. I wanted to illustrate how terrified and suffocated we feel when our rights to express ourselves are taken away.

In my appropriation art, I recreated
"The Starry Night" by adding certain
details that would reflect my
sentiments and realizations about the
changes that our world has gone through
over the years, as well as the
occurrences that continue to impact us
today.

Lastly, in my personal mandala, I took my time to come up with a design that would creatively convey my feelings, which I continue to keep hidden from others. This artwork served as a silent lament for certain events in my life — especially in my life as an aspiring artist.

In terms of the medium I employed to produce these pieces, I combined traditional and digital art.

Traditional art gave me the opportunity to reintroduce my drawing skills, which I hadn't used in years. Digital art, on the other hand, offered me with a flexible platform to showcase my creativity as well as a variety of modern tools with which to enhance my artworks.



While developing these artworks, I discovered I am more of a detailoriented person. I wouldn't mind spending hours coming up with unique ideas and working on elaborate designs merely to produce creative, unique, and expressive artworks that meet my own high standards. Making these pieces of art reminded me of how much I adore art, something I haven't felt in a long time due to personal circumstances.

This course not only taught me to further appreciate art in a deeper sense, but it also helped me to reignite my love for it. I was reminded once again that my passion for art is something I must never give up no matter what. I realized that I should not waste any of my artistic talents since there will always be someone out there who would like my crafts and look forward to seeing me

enjoyably make more pieces in the future. Through Art Appreciation (4ARTAPP), I was able to re-engage in generating personal and meaningful artworks that can allow me to reach out to people and be heard.

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4ARTAPP - ART APPRECIATION
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