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Mixing color for monochrome design is hard and requires a lot of experiment. It is much easier to carve out text in Acrylic painted paper then glue them over.

In recent years, the news media operate in a polarized world. People on different sides of the political spectrum label some media “left” and the other “right” then choose only to watch the reports from one that fit their political view and trap themselves into a “echo chamber”. The magazine cover I designed for is “Orthogonals”, a word that means “statistically independent”, or “of or involving right angles; at right angles”. Our magazine intends to bring our viewers to see the modern world from a different perspective than all other “left” or “right” media does. I first exam all the typefaces. I found TYPEFACE SIX created by Neville Brody in 1986 is interesting because some of their lower case glyphs are simply a smaller version of uppercase glyphs with an underline. I found it hard to render text with Acrylic so I used a marker pen to draft the text first. I then painted a thin paper with all red Acrylic. Then I place my draft text on top of that red paper and use a knife to cut out the text and later glue them on a pink background. This trick works very well. I found an image from web search for reference and sketched that on the paper. I found it hard to mix the colors to the one I like. I first painted some background light beaming out from the main characters. I found many times I got surprising results while I mixed red with different amounts of black and white. I found it is hard to predict what the color would be before mixing them. It took me a while to render the reflections of the binoculars. I also have to paint over several times to make the hand and fingers look natural. The drying speed of Acrylic paint is faster than I expected. Also, I tend to not mix enough paint and have to remix the same color later. But it is very challenging to mix the exact color the second time. I have to paint over my rendering several times and some of my basic strokes are not clean enough.

I found the colors I mixed have nice quality after several tries. Rendering the glass reflection on the binoculars lens is very difficult. Overall I am very happy with my work. The color tones look very elegant and graceful. I still have a hard time deciding how much paint I need to mix and how dilute they should be.