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Admissions Committee: re. George Mavroeidis

I'm Applying for the Full Time Intensive Portfolio Prep program in SynStudio. I'm a college graduate and I studied Pure and Applied Science in the Science Faculty of Vanier College. In 2011, I moved from Greece to Canada when I was only 13 years old. I was in grade 8 when I arrived, and my English and French weren't too fluent. The reason why I moved from Greece is due to the economic crisis, which made it harder to keep up with my studies and future career paths.

The interest of transitioning from Science to Fine Arts was gradual, as I had interest in both sectors, when I was attending high school. I was always told by my art teachers that I had a talent in the arts and have always maintained these interests. When I was studying complementary Design Studio courses, I had numerous conversations with my teacher about finding any opportunities where I could develop my skills. He advised me that if I want to follow Film Animation in the future, I should consider applying in Film Animation in Concordia University, which offered the best program. And thus, my interest in this field was sparked, knowing how determined I was to grow my talent and passion even more.

Unfortunately, I was refused admission in Concordia University. For a short period of time, I believed that was my only chance to transition into the Art Industry. Back when I was applying to College, I had second thoughts of applying into Film Animation in College, but I cancelled it, since Film Animation there was not a University program. I decided to continue in the Sciences, to determine if that path was truly for me. When I was refused admission in

Concordia University, I believed there was another chance I could take. I decided to not accept my admission of my second choice (Software Engineering) and spend the next year improving my portfolio needed for the career I've always endeavored. After some research, I discovered this studio, SynStudio, which offers a Full Time Intensive Portfolio Prep program for students to improve their portfolios for their future career. Thus, after some talking with my parents, I decided to enroll in this program, which will aid me for pursuing my future career.

I have been continuously working on refining my digital and traditional studio skills. Aside from drawing, sketching and painting, Photoshop has been my canvas for the majority of time. My first experience with 3D animation and puppeteering was with Blender 2.01 and Valve Source Filmmaker. I make avatars and backgrounds for friends. Currently I have managed to have a few clients, making profile pictures and avatars for money, thus, having my first experience as a fledgling, professional artist. Outside of animation related skills, abstract oil painting and character sketching are my favorite traditional art fundamentals. What I mostly find challenging and I need to improve on is my body sketching skills and dynamics of nature.

In summer of 2015, I participated in a Game Design Boot Camp in Dawson College for three weeks. Besides learning how to code and understand the market of the video game industry, I also had my first steps in learning stop-motion animation and pixel 2D art, which was essential for our projects at the time. After this, I decided to start working on my own video game, both coding and design wise. It is a project that may take years to finish, but it is something that I believe will help me later in my career and it's something I do as a hobby as well, aside from regular art.

Music has been a major influence as well. I successfully completed 4 years of piano lessons, by a professor who was also the first person to introduce me to oil painting, when I was 10. Other minor hobbies of mine have been HTML5 and CSS3 coding for creating websites, frequent biking and swimming. My major sport activity has been martial arts, more specifically Tae-Kwon-Do for 5 years, receiving the red belt, one belt before the black one.

I believe I am a suitable fit for this program, knowing that I'm ready for what it offers. From what I've seen, the staff, the professors, the courses offered and the environment are ideal for both beginners and advanced artists, who are as passionate as I am with art. I'm willing to dedicate myself on learning new skills and improving my portfolio for pursuing my future career. Though at my early stages, I'm skilled enough and ready to collaborate and contribute to your program. I will make sure I take any chances I encounter and grow connections in order to succeed in my admission for the University, which provides me a guaranteed future career for my endeavors. As a former science student, I have experienced hard work and I am willing to accept any opportunity your prestigious program affords me.

Sincerely,

George Mavroeidis

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