

Interviews of Users of Nebulanet for Requirement Specifications

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In Person

What do you do?

I am an artist. Specifically I practice traditional art that leans into fantasy settings and dynamic environments.

I would say that some of the things that I draw can be abstract but I really like to draw places that invoke something in people. I think space can be one of those places.

When I create my art, I aim to put people's thoughts into otherworldly realms where imagination and reality intertwine. To inspire curiosity, and allow people to escape into the unknown and experience a moment away from everything.

Because you are an artist, what tools and references do you use in your design and reference process?

Oh, I use all sorts of things for that. Sometimes I do a lot of research on whatever subject I'm drawing. Looking up reference photos online or making my own when I can't find exactly what I need. Maybe look at other art that is close to what I am going for. So I would say I use a lot of digital tools to get to where I want to go.

I also experiment with different software and techniques if what I normally use doesn't hit the mark. I like exploring new tools and methods. It enhances my creative process and pushes the boundaries of my work. Plus it's all part of the fun and challenge of creating something unique and meaningful. That's the idea, anyway.

Before speaking with me, were you aware of the James Webb Space Telescope?

Not at all. I am not that aware of the space scene though I can appreciate it. And I've seen some photos from the Hubble space telescope which were really impressive. And there are definitely some inspiring photos of stars and such that I have on some of my inspo boards. But again, no, I didn't know there was another prominent telescope other than what I mentioned.

My knowledge of space exploration is limited, but I am always intrigued by the images captured by telescopes like Hubble. The vastness and beauty of the universe never fails to amaze me, even though I may not be well-versed in the specifics of astronomical technology.

Would a website that compiles the observations of the JWST be useful to you?

Definitely. If I needed a reference photo for something astrological or even just space inspired, not just having other people's personal artwork or shoddy photos taken from their backyard. Plus since it is on the web I can use a picker tool to get the exact colors expressed in the stars or other complex clouds of colors like nebulas. I struggle with color theory sometimes so a website like that would help.

What could use improvement in NASA's official website for the JWST?

Well it is really hard to find what I am looking for, and incredibly difficult to find any clear indication of where to find specific things. The photos are laid out in a way that doesn't look organized. It's all focused on the date and I don't really need that.

I wish there was a more intuitive way to categorize or filter the photos based on content or location. It would save me a lot of time scrolling through irrelevant images and help me quickly locate the ones I need. A feature like this would greatly improve the user experience and make the platform much more user-friendly.

Shannon Spilker

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Over the Phone

What do you do?

I am a photographer and photo editor. I like to take pictures of nature in general. And then I like to use those photos that are backdrops of people and scenes. Like sky backdrops and edit over the usually gray and dreary backgrounds that I end up taking of people who request it. Or animals. I take a lot of pictures of my mom's horses.

I enjoy juxtaposing the vibrant colors and textures of nature with the subjects I photograph, like enhancing a portrait with a stunning sky backdrop or adding life to otherwise dull backgrounds for my photos. It's a fun hobby.

Because you are a photographer, what tools and references do you use in your design and reference process?

I use a Nikon camera, and Photoshop and Lightroom for photo editing and compression files. I use a bunch of references from other photographers and photo galleries that are listed online. I sometimes use open source photos to help edit my pictures.

I leverage open-source photos to assist me in the editing process. It gives a more diverse range of resources to experiment with and broaden my creative horizons. This makes it so that I can push the boundaries of my creativity and produce captivating visuals that resonate with my audience.

Before speaking with me, were you aware of the James Webb Space Telescope?

No. No I was not. I was aware of the Hubble telescope and have used the rendered photos from NASA's website to edit photos that I want to have big nighttime effects that have bright planetary bodies. I find this to be incredibly appealing, especially contrasting it with country photos where the land is barely lit up compared to the city.

The details captured by the Hubble telescope never fails to impress me. It's inspiring in so many ways. Integrating these cosmic elements into my editing process adds a surreal and enchanting quality to my work, creating a striking juxtaposition between the serene countryside and the usually kinda grimy city.

Would a website that compiles the observations of the JWST be useful to you?

Yes. It would be very nice to have photos that I can use that are open source so that I could use them for photo editing and reference material for lighting and light values for when I take my own photos. And not just of the sky either but for city lights and things like that.

Having access to high-quality open-source images would enhance my photo editing skills and also provide valuable inspiration for different lighting scenarios. I'm particularly interested in images that encompass a variety of settings, like city lights and urban landscapes. These visuals are great references for understanding light values and how they interact with different elements in a scene. Seeing that helps me improve my photography and editing techniques in an all around way.

What could use improvement in NASA's official website for the JWST?

Making it easier to find lighting values and what sort of lenses that they used to create such a photo. I would like to be able to find the latest picture too. Knowing what is in the sky at what time and where is nice, but for my work I would like to know more specifics if at all possible.

Understanding the intricacies of the photographic process, would provide valuable insights for my own creative process.