Xinyi Wu

CIS 275

Dr. Fee

2016/05/07

As a freelance illustrator, I always have the plan of designing a personal website for myself. Therefore in this project, I decided to make it come true. My website should be a platform of my artwork, as well as a window for others getting to know more about me. So my personal website basically consists of five parts: home page, collections, my project, my information, and also the contact information.

The title of my website is “L’etoile” which means “the star” in French. I called my site “star” because my Chinese name “Xin” pronounces very similar to star(Xing) in Chinese. The whole tone of my website is basically white and pink. I didn’t use too many colors because I want to make it clean and simple. And I have title and navigation to be black color in order to make it easier to see. I also set an icon for my website.

There are just a gif picture, a title of the picture, and a link to my collection page in my home page. I saw many good websites, and they all have simple home page like mine. I think too many things put in home page will distract people’s attention. I’d rather do more designs for my other pages since they are the pages telling something specifically. Also, I think my collection page is so important. It is almost core of the whole site and I would like to let more people see it. Therefore I just give a cover picture and a link to my collections.

In the collection page, I have six photo galleries. They are mostly my fashion design, illustration work, projects, and photos of my life. I set up different covers for each gallery when the mouse hovers on them, so that people could make sense which gallery entry they are linking to. Part of the icon for each gallery was drew by me, while others were from [http://thenounproject.com](http://nounproject.com). And after entering the gallery, the pictures are shown by slider and changed automatically. Because in this course we didn’t learn java script yet, therefore I used someone else’s code here. The java script and related css part was from <http://www.menucool.com/responsive-slider>. The slider size is not very big because I don’t feel like let other people zoom in my works and be super picky about the details of my works. And also the whole interface is pretty simple only a background frame and pictures there, because I think it is better to make it simple and emphasize my works / photos. And all the reference sources were noted in html and css file.

I have a page called “HunAliee”. That is actually a project I did last summer. “HunAliee” is the topic of my comic and also the name of the doll. The whole series of comic and dolls are originated from Sehun Oh, who is the youngest member in Korean male group EXO. He is my favorite singer and initially this entire project was used to promoting him. As more and more people were interested in my comic, the topic of my comic got more than 1 million views. I was really encouraged and thus wanted to make a real HunAliee doll for myself to celebrate the very first big accomplishment in my life. However, once I told my friends about this idea, all of them supported me. At the same time, many of my followers in Weibo (Chinese Twitter) showed their strong wishes of buying my doll. Therefore after serious consideration, I decided to open the sale and officially promote my products. So far I got more than 2,000 orders from different countries and regions. Later on, part of the revenue was used to do promotion for Sehun during EXO’s worldwide concert period, and part of it was donated to people who needed help. In China, I chose to join the monthly donation plan while in America I sponsored two kids from Worldvision.org. As Sehun’s fan, I hope he could be more and more popular; as a person, I hope my help could change at least a little of poor people’s living condition. This project right now means much more than promoting singer to me. I’m sure I will keep doing this during the next coming summer. And this is also the reason why I specifically made a page for this project.

For the designer page, I made it really simple, which only includes my photo and some brief info about myself. The photo I chose was taken on last Halloween, when I dressed up to be “Alice”. And below the photo there was a sentence saying, “Everything’s got a moral if only you can find it”. This sentence was also from “Alice in Wonderland”. I really like “Alice in Wonderland” this story because it is so fancy and interesting, and it is always stimulates my inspiration; therefore I just pick that sentence telling myself as well as others that art always comes from life and goes beyond it. I didn’t write much about myself either. There were just my birth info, my education background and my personal label. This is because I think I care about other’s opinion on me, but at the same time I don’t really want others judge me by my personal info; therefore I chose to keep the mystery. And sometimes probably it will be better if I leave more space for people to imagine.

The last page is “#follow me” page. If all the other pages are introducing my works and accomplishments, this page will be the one showing how my life is like. Through this page, I try to let more people follow my social media account and then get to more about and understand me. I gave a link to my Instagram and some tags I think is important in my life. This is the very first page I made. I spent a lot of time to consider the design and composition. Hopefully this page is attractive enough to have more people follow me.

There are still a lot improvements needed (For example, the home page and the gallery). I feely so sorry, that I didn’t really try my best. Due to my busy schedule, I didn’t have enough time to make every detail perfect. I found myself still not very good at coding the css file. But I will absolutely keep learning web design in the future.