

Christian Gosalvez

Professor Leily

Art 74

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Art 74 - Final Paper

Artist Statement:

My name is Christian Gosalvez and I am studying at San Jose State University for my Digital Media Arts major. I like to work with drawing and digital platforms such as Adobe Photoshop or Illustrator. I prefer creating more abstract art over concrete pieces due to the fact that I tend to overthink things very easily. Having an abstract piece allows me to not worry as much about it looking too weird as long as it can mix well with the surrounding elements to create a solid artwork.

I started getting into art starting from about 7th grade where I started creating random doodles in my math class on graph paper. I loved messing with different colored pens to see how the pieces would turn out. After middle school ended, I started to try and express myself using some arts which helped me control my anxiety. I took an Intro to Art class in junior year of high school to see if I truly had a chance in an arts field. This class introduced me to the digital portion of art which I found really interesting. I started practicing more and started to really enjoy it.

For senior year, I decided to take a Digital Media Arts class to learn more about the subject. I found that I enjoyed creating different pieces in that class so I decided I would try to

obtain a career in that field. I have kept learning about different styles and aspects of artists that I could try and advance my own skill with.

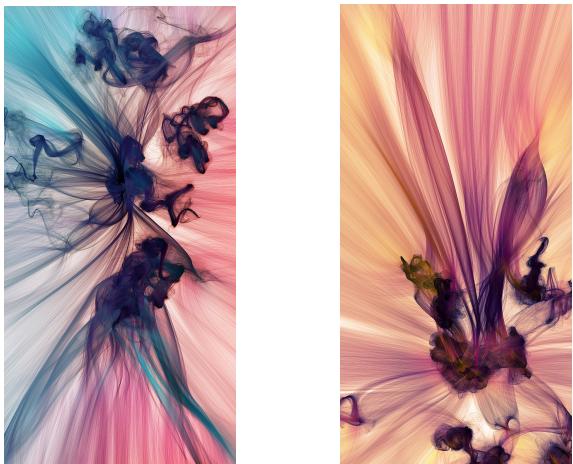
My 3 Inspirations:

While looking for more styles, I had run into artists such as JR Schmidt who I appreciate do to the abstractness in some of his pieces. I really like his pieces called *Smoke* and *Vapor*. I cannot pinpoint exactly what it is that I like about them, but I appreciate the good conflicting mix between the warm and cool colors in both pieces meshed well using the smoky style of lines. Overall, he is one of my favorite artists that helped me realize my own personal style that I use in my individual artworks.

I kept looking, and I eventually discovered Martin Grohs' artwork, in particular their piece that I believe is called *Obvious*. I enjoy the stark contrast between the golden beetle in the middle with everything else surrounding it being a dark gray or black. I also enjoy the specs of gold that surround it like for the pollen in the flowers and the eyes and tongue of the snake. This one gave me the ideas of the fact that my artworks do not have to make logical sense, just as long as they look good to me it can be good in real life. Not everything has to be perfect in order for it to be considered a good piece.

While searching, I also stumbled upon Federico Beber who has a collection called *Skulls* that has a lot of rendered skulls that I enjoy to look at because I like to compare the difference in them all. This piece allowed me to realize that no matter how basic the theme of a collection could be, such as skulls, each piece could be separated due to the differences in each of their elements.

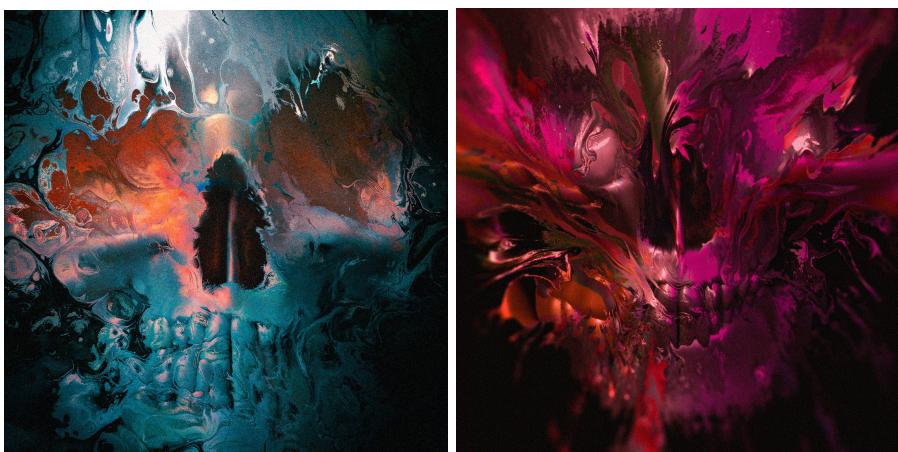
JR Schmidt's work: <https://www.behance.net/jrschmidt>



Martin Grohs' work: <https://www.behance.net/bebber>



Federico Bebber's work: <https://www.behance.net/bebber>



My Conceptual Process:

My conceptual process for how I create my art is currently not very consistent due to so many different changes in my life. But overall, I can summarize it to four steps: coming up with an idea, I try out the idea, I make small edits until I am satisfied with the result. Creating this piece was a good example of that process in action:



When I first started creating this fake album cover for OneRepublic song, “Start Again”, I had a vision of making it maybe have a blue hue and have the background clock more pronounced with the earth looking like it was spinning. After I looked at the clock before the first edit, I decided that it was too overpowering for the style I was going for so I changed it. The same thing happened with the blue hue, where it didn’t match very well so I decided to keep messing with it until I settled upon this purple.

I have a common theme in a lot of my artworks with them being set to cool colors, which I have come to accept as a sort of signature thing for me. I really enjoy using them they contain my favorite colors and I think that cool colors are easier for me to work with. I also enjoy combining a variety of different things to flow together even if they are very abstract like grapes on multiple cacti on top of an iceberg in space:



When I create new pieces, I tend to distract myself easily while trying to start it. Luckily, listening to peaceful music is able to help me focus to at least start a project. Once I am finally able to start it, I can normally do a decent amount of work in a single sitting without getting distracted because I am able to hyperfocus. This becomes useful for things such as pieces that involve many different finicky details for me to focus on like this piece:

