

Over the course of my artistic development, I have sharpened my sense of design and aesthetic to create consistently fun and engaging work. My understanding of color, shape, and composition is well-developed, but I always challenge myself to experiment in new ways. I always want to be growing and changing as an artist. In a professional setting, I can utilize the techniques I have learned to produce anything quickly and efficiently.

When I am creating something, I try to make something that anyone can connect to. Art is a great medium to express myself in my best way, so I project my experiences, my fears, and emotions I could only communicate visually. It can be difficult and scary to explain the essence of someone in their entirety, so I use visual narratives and symbols to reveal aspects of my life and represent personal experiences in an abstracted way that anyone can reflect their own stories through. Just as visceral one's own story and emotions are felt, I like to approach art with a bright, maximalist explosion of colors and shapes.

Like a map, I want explore what I am looking at and find new corners to delve into and figure out. Utilizing patterns and cyclical compositions, I want to achieve an oeuvre that is pleasant to look at, but is also rewards the viewer if they look carefully enough into the work. At the moment, I work with a painterly, exaggerated style. My intention for this is to take a step away from reality and appreciate life in a more quirky, cartoony style.

My biggest artistic inspirations are the bright, powerful, and contrasting works like the post-impressions especially those of the Fauvists Derain and de Vlaminck. Keith Haring is modern artist who has informed my work with his use of distinctly graphic shapes, colors and direct symbolic messages.

When it comes to digital art and anything involving coding, I am a complete novice, but there are some artists that are farther from my usual influences that have informed the way I look at digital media and how I approach my design. Signe Pierce is a performance artist, photographer, and digital artists I have been following long before I even considered creating my own digital art. Generally, she creates work involving feminist activism and her gendered experiences. Her oeuvre largely utilizes saturated, neon colors and mixes natural organic florals with a very contrasted artificial lighting to create dream-like narratives and landscapes with dark undertones. I love that she comments on the technology she uses to create her work as well and how self-referential it is. She also has a great sense of humor and loves to poke fun at herself which keeps her art grounded when taking the creator into consideration.

Another artist who has inspired me is Sasha Steinberg, who usually performs under the drag name Sasha Velour. Although drag in-and-of-itself is an art form which deserves the recognition it has been receiving in recent time, Velour utilizes video projection over her drag performances which add a digital element to a typically bare-bones style of performance art. I respond deeply with her use of graphic shapes, colors, and light in an active setting. I share a lot of the same interests in experimenting with the same artistic principles, but she manages to create an ephemeral art piece in her work that makes me want to experiment with technology and real-time or active creation. I also appreciate seeing how she highlights other queer artists which shares and is celebrated in such a complex display that welcomes people to interact with.

I think the internet in general has been a huge influence on me in showing me tons of different artists and how they create with digital methods, either in a tradition representation as well as more complex ways like through coding art and the like.

I will not lie, I am very disappointed with how I went through this class. I find it disrespectful not to attend so many classes and I hurt myself so much in trying to catch up on work. I guess the least I can say is that I know I cannot take a 9AM class because I can't get up at 6AM and drive all the way to San Jose State regularly like I thought I could handle. That aside, I have actually had a couple big realizations through my experience in this class.

Originally, I took this class hoping to transfer to the Digital Media Art major and focus on coding in school and work on my tradition art outside of class. Over the course of this class, I have come to the conclusion that while I definitely did find a passion for experimenting in website coding and I want to finally start trying to mess around with that aspect of the class. Previously, it was something I had always wanted to do, but found too daunting to start, but now I have my toes in the water, so that's great. However, it also made me see that I really just want to start focusing on designing and painting mainly and try and making things digitally on the side. I do think I have a very specific point of view design-wise that I would love to bring into a digital format and I'd love to see how it influences and changes my aesthetic even outside of the medium, but overall, I want to start creating now that I have stopped being unsure of what I want to do with my art, I can actually just go ahead and start doing something.



