



Art Portfolio

Hsiang-Chen Yeh



Calligraphy

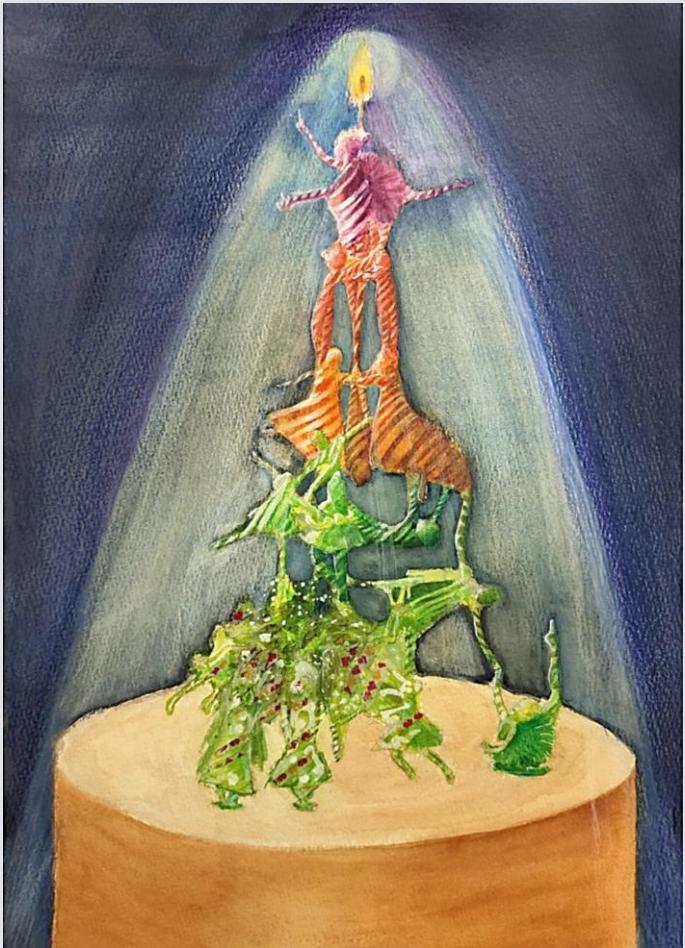


In this Calligraphy Set, I express a profound journey towards self-discovery and appreciation of enduring traditions. It features "知遵," where I encourage the pursuit of knowledge and truth, and "晦影," symbolizing the challenges I've faced in life. "歸真" represents my quest for authenticity, while "遷儀越世" highlights the timeless nature of my pursuit for wisdom. My artwork reflects deep emotional sensitivity, using the metaphor of plum blossoms to signify the uniqueness of true love, as revered in Japanese culture. It also expresses my heartfelt New Year's blessings, paying homage to ancient traditions. This ink wash painting and calligraphy stabilizes my emotions and enriches my cognitive experiences, marking my return to joy and peace in art.

138cm x 34cm/29.7cm x 10cm/
38cm x 6.5cm/57cm x 26cm

Medium: Calligraphy.

Joy



38cm x 26cm

In this artwork titled "Joy," every dancer on the birthday cake represents a candle. As we age, the candles stack higher, symbolizing how we construct our lives and dreams step-by-step. The top-most candle radiates the joy of hope and growth. In the bottom-right corner, a few dancers have fallen, signifying that amidst the joy of growth, there can be setbacks. Joy isn't just about a bright outcome; it encompasses everything that happens during the journey, including past failures, all of which become moments worth celebrating in life.

I've used bright, warm colors to convey the theme of joy, contrasting with a deep, cool background. I've also added concentrated highlights to draw the viewer's attention to the focal point. In this section, I've applied colors in a relatively simple and abstract manner, incorporating tape and white spots to create a vibrant and dynamic atmosphere. This approach prevents the artwork from feeling stagnant and captures the essence of the dynamic and joyful nature of life's growth.

Medium: Watercolors, colored pencils, and masking tape.

Farewell

This artwork, titled 'Farewell,' draws inspiration from the poignant Shakespearean line, 'Parting is such sweet sorrow.' Throughout our lives, we must confront the inevitability of separation, and farewells, in particular, have a profound impact on our hearts.

This piece is a reflection of my late grandmother, who was the inspiration behind it. It represents the idea that in our memories, my grandmother and I were once incredibly close, our hearts almost merging into one. On the right side of the composition, you can see my grandmother's hand, which is depicted as strong and steady. On the left side is the hand of a young girl, representing myself, delicate and tender. The positioning of these two hands took considerable thought because I wanted to convey the feeling of "forever apart after our last meeting," a heart-wrenching and difficult sensation to bear.

The background of the artwork reveals the inner worlds of both individuals. My grandmother's side features a hexagonal shape, symbolizing her ability to rationally embrace the journey of life and bid farewell gracefully. On my side, I've employed techniques to convey a sense of heaviness and collapse, akin to the feeling of tears continuously falling. The intermingling of elements from both our inner worlds suggests that we have left an indelible mark on each other's hearts, becoming an integral part of one another's worlds.

In essence, this artwork conveys the notion that parting in life is not a permanent separation but a transformation into a different form, continuing to accompany us on our journey.

Medium: Watercolors and tissue paper



38cm x 26cm



38cm x 26cm

Rage

This artwork aims to embody the emotion of rage through a spirit. I've employed stark contrasts, exaggerating the expression of intense anger on the spirit's face. In the background, I've added abstract lines, allowing viewers to feel or imagine themselves enveloped in the frenzy of heated words or the loss of control that often accompanies rage.

Additionally, the direction of the steel nails is a deliberate choice. Those pointing inward represent external factors that trigger and fuel the spirit's anger, while those pointing outward symbolize the aggression and harm he inflicts on others when consumed by fury.



Medium: Plastic mask, steel nails, paint.

The Wounds



29.7cm x 21cm

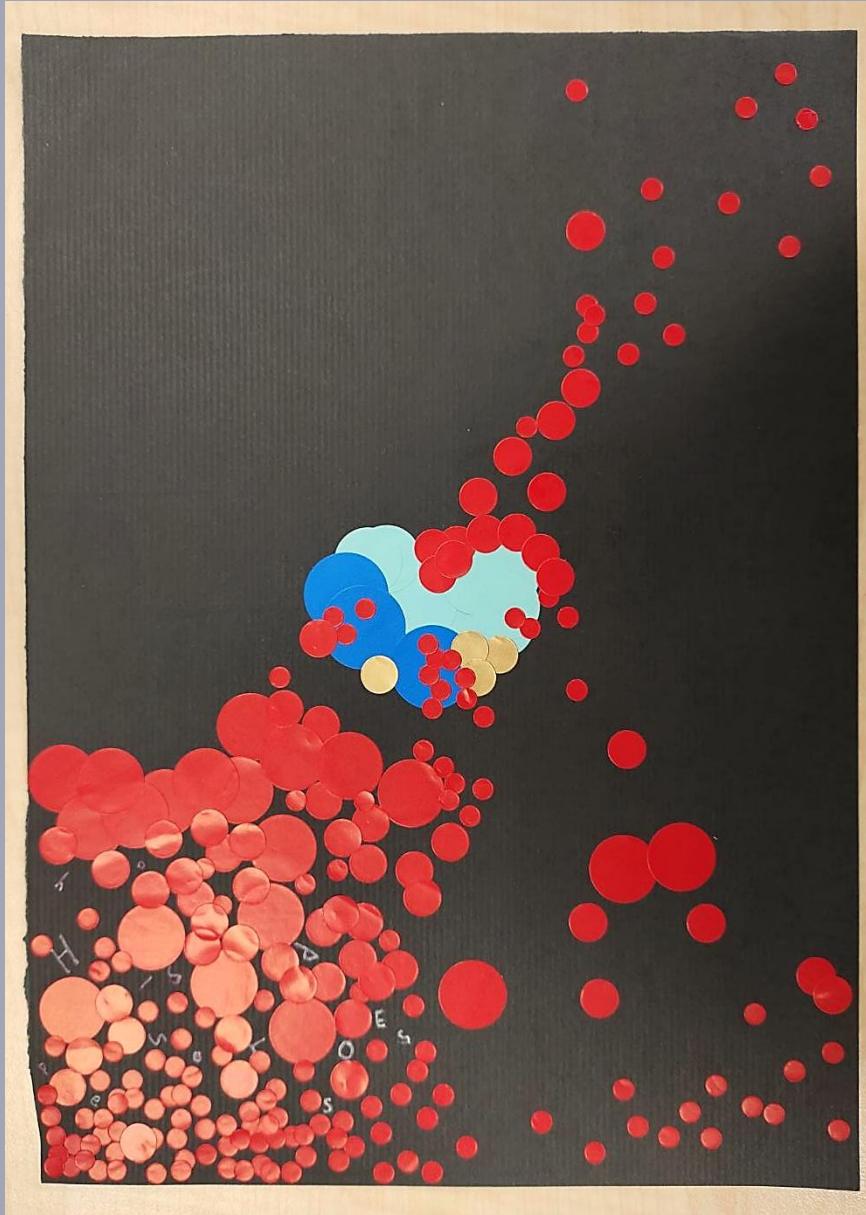
In this artwork, the nest devours the soul of the bird, and the bird weeps, its shattered heart pouring out like a waterfall in an abstract representation. The wounds from the family persist, and the bird still carries sharp tears within its heart.

The bird has become "nestified," not only physically merging into the nest but also with its wings becoming part of the branches. This symbolizes excessive interference from the original family, resulting in a complex web of sorrow and tears.

This piece explores the concept of bonded relationships, often associated with the mother-child dynamic. It reflects how disruptions within this system lead to blurred boundaries, co-dependence, and hindrance to autonomy and independence. Those affected may struggle with passivity, fear of criticism, indecision, and self-blame for family issues or their mother's problems. These issues have a profound impact on their emotions, lives, relationships, and even future marriages, leaving a lasting imprint on those involved.

Medium: Foam board, colored paper.





Hopeless

Waking up in tears, I dreamt of a reality.
Will hope ever be silent?

Medium: Black paper, round dot stickers.

29.7cm x 21cm

Depression



5 cubic cm

This artwork, executed on a cubic wooden block, delves into the intricate facets of depression through a spectrum of colors:

- Pink to Purple Gradient: Reflecting both kindness and melancholy.
- Green and Flesh Tones: Symbolizing humanity and the comfort of nature.
- Pink and Black: Representing innocence and loneliness.
- Red, White, and Black: Conveying anger and emptiness.
- An Array of Complicated Colors: Depicting the intricate nature of depression.
- Blue and Black: Signifying the search for hope amid turbulent and treacherous waters for a starry sky in the night.

Medium: Wood blocks, acrylic paint.



Carpet

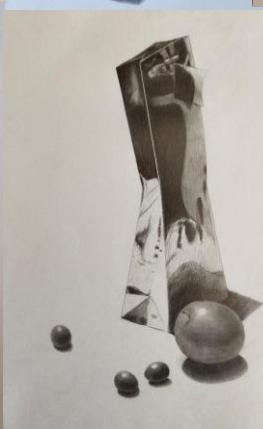
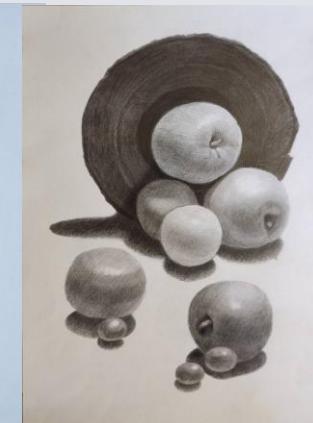
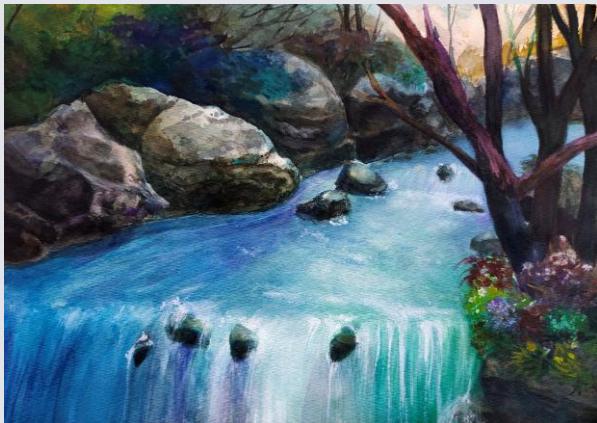
When I feel inner turmoil, I immerse myself in an ambiance for rest, like this portrayal of a Maltese in Hokkaido, Japan. The purple represents the tranquility of lavender, while the blue lake and branches depict the unique beauty of Biei's 'Blue Pond.' This piece is not just my quest for serenity but also demonstrates relaxation and self-exploration in art therapy.

Medium: Yarn, fabric, hot glue, non-slip mat.

25cm x 25cm



Within 38cm x 26cm ; 29.7cm x 21cm



In this collection of artworks, I've ventured into exploring various textures and landscapes. However, these pieces go beyond mere representation; they are infused with my own emotions and personal experiences, making them more than just simple depictions.

Medium: Watercolors, colored pencils, sketch, ballpoint pen.



Art Class Practice - Over The Rainbow



Medium: Modeling clay.

Modeling

29.7cm x 21cm x 1.5cm/24cm x 10cm x 9cm/8.5cm x 7.5cm x 6.5cm/10 cubic cm

My modeling collection combines personal stories with artistic skill, each piece deeply rooted in my experiences and aimed at connecting with others through shared emotions.

"Mom's Portrait Relief": A relief sculpture inspired by Taiwan's historical art, capturing the emotion in my mom's expressions. This piece is a tribute to our bond and her influence on me.

"Hands of Pingtung, Pingtung's Touch": Symbolizing my hometown Pingtung as caring hands guiding us from childhood to old age. This artwork embodies the support and memories associated with Pingtung, celebrating its constant presence in every life stage. *Pingtung is the name of my hometown.

"Garlic Bulb 1.5 Times": Focusing on the detailed proportions and textures of a garlic bulb, this piece magnifies the ordinary to showcase its intricate beauty.

"Campus Leaves": Capturing the detailed textures and shapes of leaves from my campus, this work highlights the overlooked beauty and complexity in nature around us.



Size: digital

Photography Collection

I enjoy capturing beautiful moments, documenting the colors, light, and shadows, the emotions of a place, seasonal changes, travel experiences, and the present moment.

Medium: Photography.



Couple Ring



Inner circle diameter: 1.65cm, 1.85cm

I have always felt aligned with the qualities of my Zodiac sign, Cancer: gentle, emotional, loving, and cherishing of my loved ones. Though the Barnum effect is a psychological explanation of gullibility for horoscopes, I choose to embrace this part of my identity, and my boyfriend has affectionately named me "Crab," while I adore his Scorpio qualities.

These rings are crafted with variations in thickness, sharpness, and roundness, tailored to our individual hand sizes and personalities.

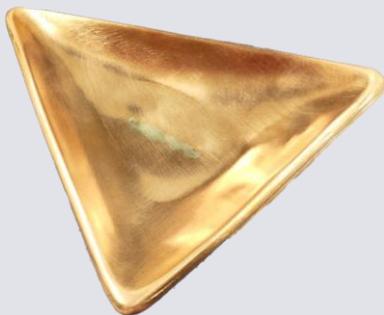
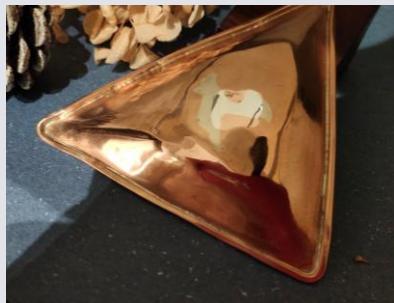
Medium: Wax carving and metalworking.



10cm x 6cm

Metalwork Display Tray

Metalwork Display Tray (cont'd)



I initially designed a collection of 4 ancient Egyptian symbols experimenting with acrylic molding, frame welding, and inlay-- intricate techniques that were new for me. After the first piece did not survive, I pivoted and added the additional step of embossing, demonstrating for me that my initial vision can evolve, and the final product can be even stronger.

- The water symbolizes a pure heart.
- The foot symbolizes courage.
- The eagle embodies the sun god, interpreting freedom and unbridled spirit.

Not shown: The eyes represent discerning between good and evil, safeguarding health and happiness.

Medium: Red copper, silver.



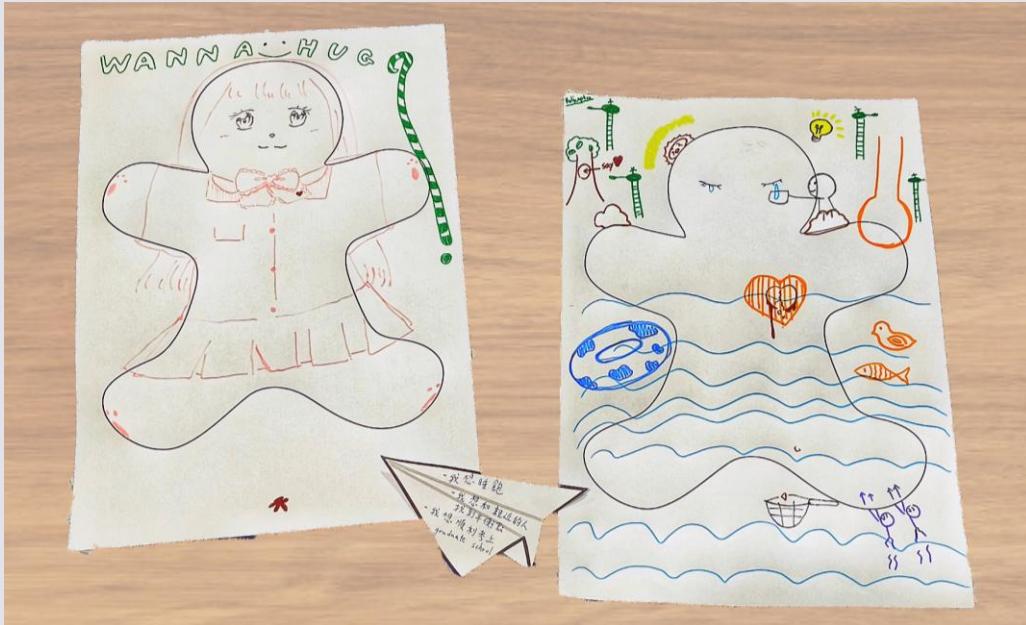
Flow of Craft

Bracelet: 18cm / Ring inner circle diameter: 1.65cm/

This collection of metalworking and beading pieces centers on two primary works: a brass bracelet with a water-inspired form and a silver ring designed with feather-like contours and set with lapis lazuli. Together, these pieces reflect meticulous craftsmanship and a contemplative approach to making, underscoring the therapeutic qualities embedded in the creative process.

Medium: Brass, silver, lapis lazuli.

The Real Me and The Ideal Me



29.7cm x 21cm

In my artwork, I depict two selves: the real me, grappling with study abroad application pressures and school bullying, and the ideal me, a confident and beautiful young woman. This piece not only presents my internal struggles and aspirations but also demonstrates how, through the process of collective creation in art therapy, we offer mutual support and healing. My classmates interacted with my work, adding elements of love, helping hands, and creativity, making me feel the power of community. My artwork reflects life's challenges and beauties, showcasing the importance of art therapy in expressing emotions and facilitating healing.

Medium: Watercolor pens, paper.

"A tree like ME"



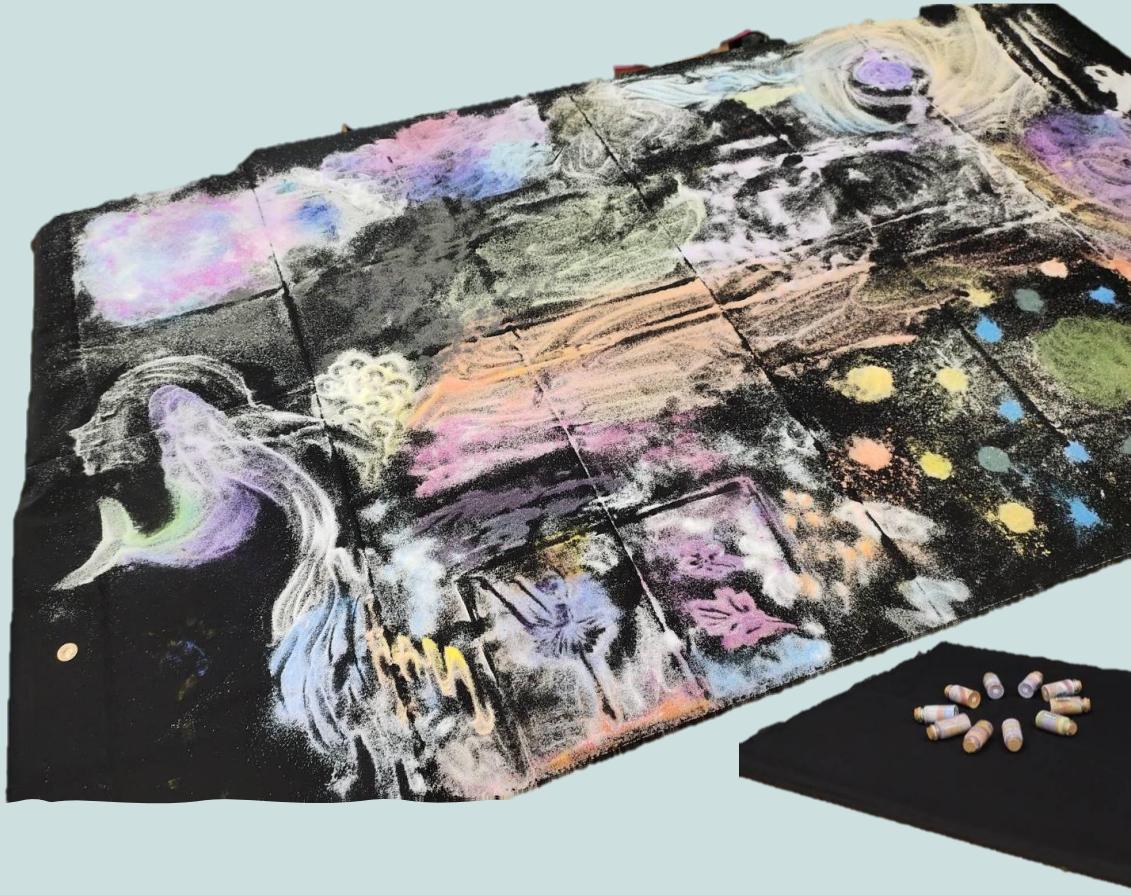
(這是想像 從上方俯視樹的圖)
這樣樹長在我住的宿舍外，每天都會正面、側面



I found a tree on the campus,
its entangled roots resembling
the state of my mind at that
time.

Medium: Paper, crayon, ballpoint pen.

38cm x 26cm



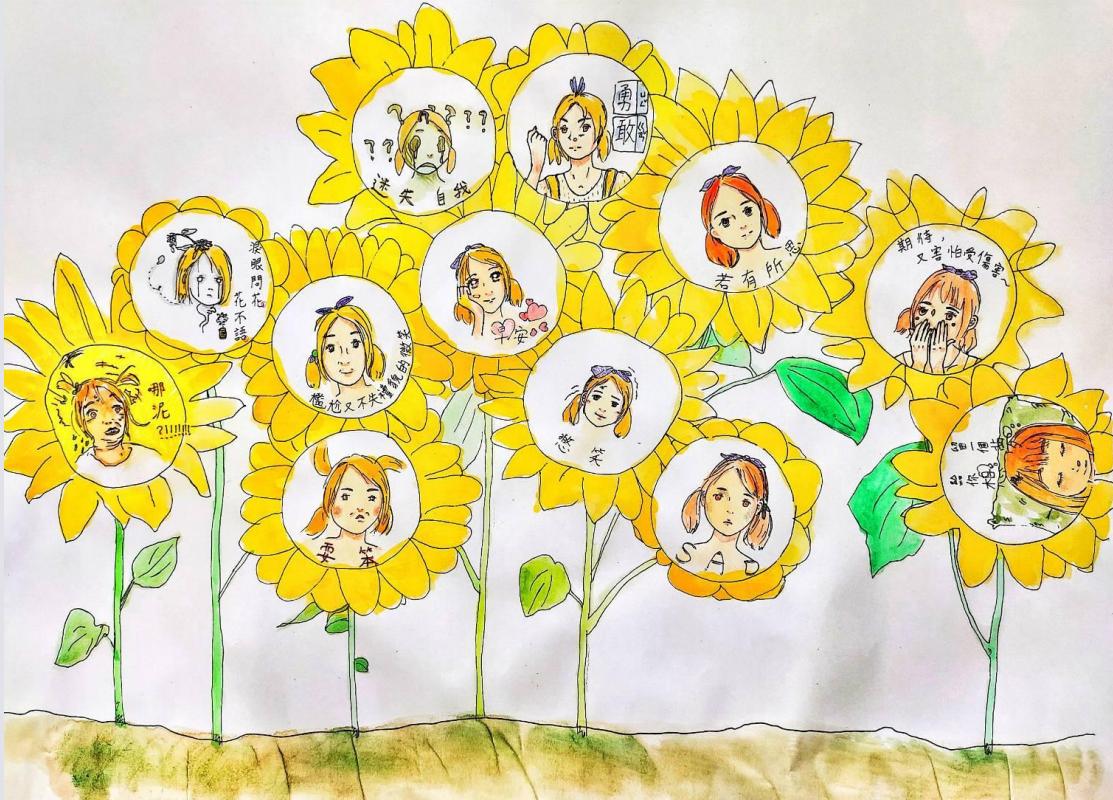
Art Therapy Class: Group Work

Description:

This sand art was created with salt and pastel. I have depicted the transition into autumn, showcasing a ballet dancer gracefully dancing among falling leaves. This form of creative expression fosters connection and brings a sense of peace.

Medium: Salt, pastels, glass bottle.

Self-Characterization Design



38cm x 26cm

The top row consists of three panels. The first panel shows a character with a large head and a small body, with text in Chinese. The second panel shows a stylized orange character with a face and limbs. The third panel shows four versions of a girl in purple dresses with sunflower patterns.

The bottom row consists of four panels. The first panel shows the girl from the third panel with a callout box explaining her hairstyle. The second panel shows the girl from the third panel with a callout box explaining the source of her blouse. The third panel shows the girl from the third panel with a callout box explaining the flower pattern. The fourth panel shows the girl from the third panel with a callout box explaining the overall concept.

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In this artwork, I've personified myself as a "Sunflower Seed Sprite." During the day, I take the form of a seed, and at night, I transform into a human. There are numerous symbolic elements in my clothing and appearance. I express a wide range of emotions, from shock to loss of vitality, from polite smiles to whimsical expressions, from feeling lost to greeting the morning with bravery. I also hold back laughter, appear contemplative, express sadness, and convey a mix of anticipation and nervousness. Most importantly, I radiate the beauty of having dreams.



Size: digital



Self-Characterization Design - Variation

Inspired by my pink hair at the time, I refined the previous Self-Characterization Design through digital modeling tools to create a more vibrant, dimensional, and lively character interpretation. This variation highlights the character's resilience and conveys a straightforward, courageous approach to meeting challenges.

Medium: Modeling software.



The Competition I Truly Wanted to Win

I had a competition that I truly wanted to win, a competition against none other than myself.

Back in high school, I was fortunate to be awarded a scholarship from the Japan-Taiwan Exchange Association for a year of study abroad in Japan. However, the price for this valuable opportunity was taking a one-year hiatus and returning to retake my senior year.

So, I spent a total of four years in high school:

2 years in Taiwan, 1 year in Japan, and then back to Taiwan for another year.

During the days leading up to creating this artwork, my friends from the same graduating class were scattered across Taiwan, celebrating their graduations. Watching them one by one achieve this milestone, I couldn't help but feel a deep sense of sadness and wonder if I have fallen behind?

The meaning behind this artwork is that graduation doesn't equate to the sole proof of happiness or success. I wanted to convey a message through this painting, paying tribute to my past self who worked so hard. I wanted to express my gratitude to her, for it's because of her efforts that I am who I am today.

Medium: Illustration created using Procreate.

The Story Behind My Name



In this necklace design, I've transformed the meaning and stories behind the character "翔" in my name, "葉翔禎" into my artwork.

- The Meaning of "翔":

For this necklace, I chose one of the three characters in my name, **翔**.

This character represents nonwinged flight and ascension, symbolizing the potential to move freely through the boundless skies. It inspires hope and limitless possibility.

Medium: Rhinoceros 3D.



8cm x 7.5cm

the Unicorn in the Counseling Room

Longing for you day and in dream
I'm hoping you are here and leading my way
You steers my road anytime I need
If you walk away
I will follow you

Trying my life
With your sacred gifts you gave to me
I won't vain and succeed it as your precious soul
Holding your hand
And I'm walking through the all of the world
Carrying your wish
like the Venus in the dim sky



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8.2cm×7.1cm

The Unicorn in the Counseling Room

Description:

This unicorn captures the special quality of therapist:
someone who must not get TOO close (must maintain
professional boundaries) but is also kind and open.

Medium: Rhinoceros 3D.



(3) 胸針的材質與寶石數量與克拉尺寸的使用

11.7x6.3mm 馬眼形藍寶1.5cts	2.8x1.5mm長方形白鑽0.15cts
6.5x4.7mm梨形白鑽0.48cts	4.5x1.7mm長方形藍寶0.29cts
8x6mm梨形白鑽1cts	6.5x4.7mm梨形白鑽2.5cts
10.2x7.7mm梨形白鑽2.5cts	
6x4.5mm 馬眼形藍寶0.5cts	
4.1x4.1mm圓形白鑽0.25cts	
4x1.5mm長方形藍寶0.1cts	
3.5x1.7mm長方形藍寶0.07cts	
3x2mm長方形藍寶0.06cts	
2.2x1.5mm長方形藍寶0.04cts	
胸針的材質24K白金	

Illustration Card

Description:

In this illustration, a girl finds herself on the verge of falling into a dark abyss. Despite feeling helpless, she embarks on a courageous journey in search of light. Finally, she encounters a sacred unicorn...

This artwork conveys the idea that life is often filled with unexpected twists and turns, but it also offers moments of brightness in the darkest times, as long as we don't give up hope. I believe that therapists, much like the unicorn in the picture, play the role of rekindling hope for those facing seemingly insurmountable challenges in their hearts.

Medium: Watercolors, colored pencils, black paper cards, white pen.



“Wonderland” — Mandala and Zentangle Art

Both Jung's mandala and zentangle art capture the archetype of the whole self. My version, which blends both styles, features a central fairy, representing my nocturnal inspiration and tranquility. Surrounded by triangles, it reflects the challenges I face. The overall structure symbolizes my journey of healing and discovery through art.

This art form stabilizes emotions, reduces anxiety, and balances rational and perceptual thinking, thereby unlocking potential. Creating mandalas fosters exploration beyond logic through self creation.



9cm x 9cm

Medium: Paper, ballpoint pen.

5 minutes



A Million Dreams: Courage in Vulnerability

In life, we all have moments when we feel utterly drained, as if we have no strength left to carry on. However, it's often not just the challenges we face that weigh us down; it's the feeling of helplessness that can overwhelm us.

But in those moments of vulnerability, we have the incredible power to search for hope, to find solace in the things we love, and to draw happiness from them. We can summon the courage to face adversity head-on, to exhibit unwavering resilience, and to eagerly anticipate the countless possibilities that lie ahead. It's about clutching onto the tiniest glimmer of hope, knowing that even the darkest night will eventually surrender to the gentle embrace of the dawn.

This is the message I wholeheartedly wish to share. Please take a moment to watch this video of my soulful practice before the final performance in my dance therapy class.

Link:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/19Saw9eK8aFBLfmdr5l9dvKIg2UiUrzUfN/preview>

Medium: Video.

Artist Statement:

In my art, imperfections are not flaws but reminders of life's natural variations. I draw inspiration from music, dance, museum visits, and psychology, exploring themes such as stress, letting go, and intimate relationships. I forgo traditional sketches, choosing instead an intuitive approach that conveys the depth of emotions. By incorporating the principles of "Wabi-sabi" and the art of "Kintsugi," I seamlessly integrate imperfections into my artwork. I embrace the use of mixed media and versatile brushstroke techniques. I begin by sketching a rough outline of the scene and then allow my creativity to flow naturally, capturing the feelings within my heart.

My creative work explores the realms of personal growth, profound emotions, and the intricacies of intimate relationships. I also craft symbolic representations, such as a 3D unicorn-themed brooch adorned with vibrant gemstones, and a reinterpretation of my name through a 3D necklace. These pieces symbolize my journey of self-discovery and celebrate my cultural heritage. I engage in metalwork, sculpture, crafting, and illustrating, allowing me to express my sensitivity and keen observation through textures, patterns, and colors. My involvement in art therapy-related activities underscores self-expression, emotional exploration, and the nurturing of connections that promote mental well-being and self-realization.

Additionally, I have pursued music for over ten years, with a focus on piano and violin. During junior high school, I was accepted into a gifted music program and participated in the Pingtung Youth Choir for two years. I frequently performed with string orchestras in concert halls and at local cultural events. I am inspired by composers and the music that is their legacy. Chopin's Heroic Polonaise in A-flat major, Op. 53, and Ballade No. 1 in G minor, Op. 23 are brimming with vibrant chords and poetry, reflecting his tenacious spirit. The power of art as therapy is its ability to communicate emotion in a way that transcends language. Mozart's Violin Concerto No. 5 in A major is characterized by swiftness, clarity, and elegance. The third movement of this concerto, with its Turkish-inspired rondo, is particularly creative and heartwarming. Whenever I play the violin, I feel like I am gazing at the stars, embracing my inner child with a sense of wonder, believing in the liveliness, sparkle, and warmth of the world. In the choir, my teachers often praised my rich and clear soprano voice. I enjoy singing with a genuine and unpretentious tone, letting my purest voice resonate from within. I also relish the feeling of interpreting lyrics and adjusting my dynamics to convey emotion, achieving a state of flow. In these moments, I feel entirely present, with my soul resonating in sweet symphony with the music.

I have dedicated eight years to dance, primarily focusing on ballet but also delving into modern dance, classical Chinese dance, and dance dramas portraying historical stories. Additionally, I participated in the university club, "Light and Fire Arts(fire dance)," which further enriched my understanding of the performing arts. What I am most proud of is unwavering determination in continuing to challenge myself and grow, whether I was dancing in the ensemble or in a leading role. As I deepen this passion, I continue to seek meaningful ways to expand my creative language and emotional exploration.