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Cyberpunk
Artist Statement
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Cyberpunk to me means many things, as I believe it's a much wider genre than people give credit. There's the side of it that seems very aesthetic based, the bright lights and holograms, neon signs and flying cars. Almost a technology utopia. The opposite would be the desolate, dark atmosphere. Where life has grown much harder and technology isn't mainly used for good. Different examples tap into different sides of it and the different sides have even more different sides, the deeper it goes it seems. The politics are another side that are even more deeply intriguing as it seems there's common themes between all cyberpunk society. So mauve the politics is what makes something cyberpunk rather than the aesthetics?

There are many recurring themes of capitalism, corporate entities becoming more powerful than the government, where money is king and people will do anything for money. The theme of technology becoming what the largest companies are selling is interesting too as technology seems to be such a desirable and necessary thing for the rich and the poor.

As far as my project goes I was trying to encapsulate all of that but in my own way. I used many atmospheric sounds and effects to simulate the feeling of being alone in some huge city and the feeling of sounds on the streets that are unavoidable. I used some hardware synths for this which for me feels more creative and free flowing but in this instance it was fun to sit in my room with my synths it felt like I was in a cyberpunk world using my instruments. The delay and reverbs I put on the hat and the snare sort of remind me of very electric sounds that might come from a car in the future or some type of electric sparking from something malfunctioning. The drums I chose are very fast and digital. The feeling of being chased or adrenaline. And the contrast between them reminds me of how quick something can switch from peaceful to intense.

Overall it's a world that I love. Whether it's the neon lights or the foggy air (my favorite is the foggy noir style). There's something special in all of it that's somewhat comforting. Maybe it's because our world hasn't quite come to that level yet which is relieving but maybe it's striving for something that is out of reach. Many different people like many different aspects of cyberpunk society and that is what makes it so special. Great class and have a good summer!