Sammy Lui

**Nonlinear Road to 2018: Artist Statement**

For this project, I wanted to create a nonlinear narrative using my experiences as a creator during college. As a creator, I have happened upon and explored many paths intentionally and unintentionally. I am the type of person who regularly practices programming but has also hunted a crocodile on a weekend. Some of the paths I’ve taken have been more straightforward such as going from drawing Pokémon fan art to drawing detailed human characters. Some have set me on new paths. From watching *Doctor Strange* after a long period of time doing Java programming and creating videos, I decided to explore more genres in writing and to write three stories of different genres. Some of my paths were not consecutive. I watched *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* in 2015, wrote a science fiction story at the beginning of 2017, re-watched *The Force Awakens* at the end of 2017, and then wrote a Space Opera from my renewed inspiration from *The Force Awakens* in 2018. As such, I have decided that many of the works I’ve done from different fields had little to no connection with each other and that they ran parallel amongst each other. I have created this website to connect a few of my activities throughout 2015 to 2018, leading to the moment I created this website.

I constructed the nonlinear narrative out of several sub-narratives. Each sub-narrative is made up of one or more activities and works I have done during each of my college years. For each page, I explained the direct reason why I did the activity and how it connected to a past activity I did. By clicking the “NEXT” link at the bottom of each page, users can progress through the sub-narrative. After the sub-narrative ends, clicking next returns you to the index, ending the sub-narrative on the website’s index.

For the background music, I used 8-bit music from the video game series *Final Fantasy*. Besides being one of my favorite video game series, I also chose *Final Fantasy* music and design to supplement the idea that each of my years and activities aren’t tightly connected, similar to how each game in the series has sparse connections and to delineate myself as being a work in progress and as being slightly old fashioned.