

As my body of work has progressed and grown, all the pieces I have created have related to the general theme of conflict in some form. I've often explored the idea of conflict in the forms of colors, styles, ideas, or subjects. I've tried to showcase the inner conflict between myself and the world, as well as metaphors like predator VS. prey, or even in colors displayed as grayscale VS. saturated hues. This idea of conflict has been discovered and experimented with over several different mediums, including sculptural interpretations representing the inner conflict we share when in need of organization, as well as in painted, printed, and drawn forms of conflict. In the progress of my pieces as well, I hoped to show somewhat of an improvement and change in my personal mentality and how I've grown as an individual to express myself through my art. When placed in consecutive order of production, I believe it's easy to recognize the development and improvement of expression by studying the mood or intention in my pieces. It begins to morph and grow into pieces that express positive connotations rather than unfortunate and negative.

I have come to find that working with my favorite materials, and exploring projects and ideas I like, I most effectively convey my ideas in those areas. I find that I thoroughly enjoy creating work based off of experiences I encounter in my personal life as well. I have had to endure many challenges in high school, experiencing a heavy amount of death and loss. I've lost my mother, uncle, great grandmother, and two of my friends in the short span of three years. With this, time seems to be a recurring theme in many of my pieces. I often reference the quick passing of time, as I feel like it passes before we even seem to realize. Influenced by Salvador Dali, clocks and hourglasses are included in a few of my pieces, representing this. Though I do personally prefer working with 3-dimensional mediums, painting has also been a drawing point for me. In my paintings, such as my self portrait, I again reference both the passing of time, with an hourglass, and the theme of conflict, between use of grayscale and use of color, and in realism opposing animation. Many of my projects aimed to make the viewer feel or experience a feeling, such as Montessori Reminiscence, which was created to allow the viewers to feel this nostalgia of traveling back to middle school and preschool. Other pieces were created in heavy detail, with repetitive patterns to allow the viewers eyes to travel around the piece, like Accentuated Features.

I believe because I learned to better deal with death after having to experience it so often, I was able to cope with it and express it in my art. In the beginning, I feel as if some of my pieces, primarily the dry point etching, have this unintentional depressive aura to them, which evolves and is altered into a much more positive, comforting style, as seen in projects such as the MIAD Industrial Design project, and the Minecraft Reagan project. This is also arguably attributed to the exploration of new mediums and my fascination and partiality toward these digital & 3-dimensional forms.

The space I was allotted for the display of my exhibition was a virtual approach, as I was unable to display my art in the previously available display wall space in the school building, which was unable to be accessed due to the pandemic. However, I've decided to display my

exhibition in this sequential order, as to continue to convey the idea of mental improvement and perseverance.

Though I favored some mediums, and primarily worked with those, I feel my exhibition adequately displays my versatility and adaptability to new and unexplored materials. Though some of the expressed ideas and motifs were not primarily intentional, it is evident that my art over the progression of creation became an expression of my subjective emotions.