

Portfolio

Jordan Magnani

Artist Statement

I don't know if I've ever considered myself an artist. I have referred to myself as, and have been referred to as, an artist. To me, as contradictory to the nature of the role as it sounds, an artist seems to be a part, a position with specific criteria I must meet in order to call myself. I have been creating for as long as I can remember. Unwrapping one of those all-inclusive but low-quality "art sets" (if you were ever a child that had interest in art in a family that didn't, you know the ones) became a staple of every birthday and Christmas. One of my mother's favorite stories to tell is about when she redid my room when I was around three years old. A perfectly pink example of every little girl's dream room, she was so proud, and I promptly decided that the room would benefit from a large crayon drawing on the back wall of my closet, hidden by clothes. When confronted with this dilemma, I saw no issue and inquired about her concern, stating, "It's just a tiger with some stripes?" In my vision, it equally had a place and a purpose, existing within this impeccably curated space, and I failed to see why its existence was in question. I think to this day I am still just making tigers with stripes. Artworks and creations I so vehemently believe in that not bringing them to fruition seems unfair. I create because I enjoy doing so, and I find the process of creation to be a continuous metamorphic and cathartic experience that never ceases to excite me. It is not to say I don't struggle or find stagnation within the creative process, but it is the project that finally tips the scale back into enjoyment that always makes the mass amounts of erasing and restarting worth it. I was lucky enough to grow up in a family that, while sometimes questioned the purpose of my creativity, never attempted to dilute or dissuade it. It's this cultivation of my artistic merits that have led me straight to the path I'm on today. The garden becomes the gardener. I want my impact as an "artist" to be one of support, hope, and empathy. My aspiration is to be presented with the opportunity to always remind myself and others that themselves and their creations have a purpose here, to remind them that it is just a tiger with some stripes and sometimes that's all it needs to be.

Professional Aspirations

Upon gaining experience in the field and graduating from the Creative Arts Therapy and Counseling Program, I am hoping to obtain the required licensure to practice within the state. After receiving the licensure, I would like to find a job that allows me to utilize my knowledge and skill base while working on opening my own practice. Currently, I work in an acute psychiatric facility for children and adolescents, and I would like to continue working with this population. I love helping others through the means of art; I wouldn't be in this program otherwise. I love to ease the tiny seed of creativity that everyone possesses into what it needs to properly grow. I love to promote the idea that art should not only be accessible and praised by those who are deemed "talented."

"Flowers in your hair"
Acrylic paint on glass



"You're so Golden"
Acrylic on glass

"The Mother's Garden"
Acrylic on fiberboard



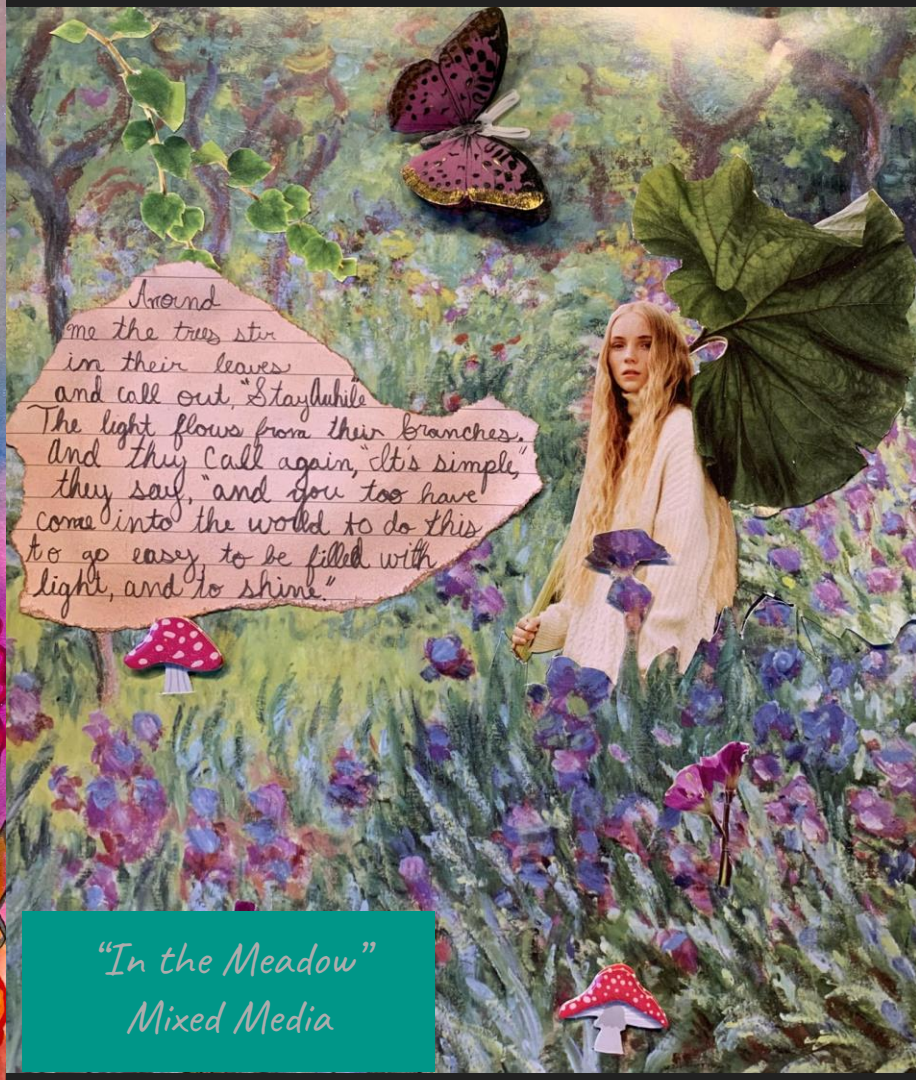
*"I'm Still Growing"
Markers and Magazine Page*



*"Into the Stars"
Markers & Magazine Page*



"Up From A Dream"
Watercolor Powder, Markers &
Gel Pens



"In the Meadow"
Mixed Media

*"Fear and Friday's"
Mixed Media*



*"Grow Through What You Go Through"
Acrylic, Markers & Stickers*



*Pink Doll
Mixed Media*

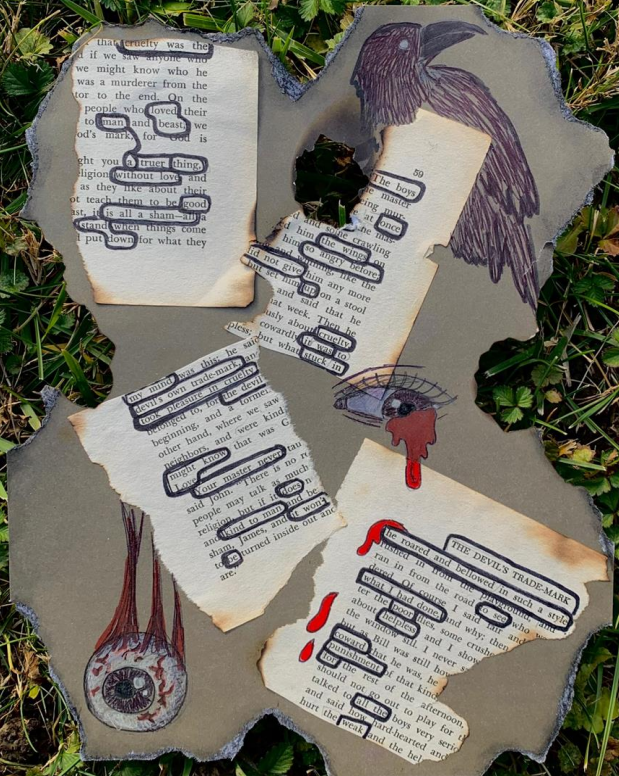


*Nature Spirit Doll
Mixed Media*



The Devils Trademark
Mixed Media

Acrylic Pours
Acrylic Paint on Vinyls



Self Portrait

*Acrylic paint & clear glue on
glass*



Contents

1. *"Flowers In Your Hair": This is part of a series I am hoping to start in which I will create portraits of women based off a song. This song is called Flowers In Your Hair by The Lumineers. This work represents rebirth and transformation.*
1. *"You're So Golden": This song is based off of the song Golden by Harry Styles. The theme of this piece is living as your true self and finding inner peace.*
1. *"The Mother's Garden": This was created as a gift for a family friend, Jane. She is the mother of four children and grandmother to four grandchildren. The "canvas" is a section of a pingpong table from the family's home. Each flower represents the birth month flower of Jane, her children and grandchildren.*
1. *"I'm Still Growing": In this piece I chose to represent the importance in prioritizing personal growth despite living in a world that tries to put people into "black and white" categories.*
1. *"Into The Stars": Representative of organized chaos. It was a response piece to the way a photograph of space made me feel. I do not like space and feel overwhelmed when I ponder it.*
1. *"Up From a Dream": For this work I used watercolor, sharpies and pens. I feel like I am currently in a large transitional period of my life. While I may mourn or dream of where and who I used to be, I am cultivating and growing the me I am meant to be. I am using this work as a descending "timeline" of dreaming something, the moth, putting in the work to achieve it, the crying eye, and seeing the hard work pay off in the form of progressing my life, the flower garden.*
1. *"In The Meadow": This piece is based on the poem "When I am Among the Trees" by Mary Oliver. The peaceful nature of the poem inspired the dreamy, almost fairytale, imagery that I went with. I used magazines, an old book, notebook paper and stickers to create the piece.*
1. *"Fear & Friday's": Fear and Friday's is a poem by a musician named Zach Bryan. It resonated with me because I feel it highlights how people should focus on what they already have rather than what they are seeking. It is easy to continue to want and forget the "wealth" you possess.*

Contents cont.

9. "Grow Through What You Go Through": When I created this work I was going through some personal things I was having a hard time processing. I wrote it all down on the canvas board and decided to create on top of it. This helped with processing the information and transforming it into something self.
10. "Pink Doll": When my sister was little she had a dolly with pink yarn hair. It went everywhere with her until she grew up. I thought of my sister and that doll while creating this.
11. "Nature Spirit Doll": Something about this doll is so comforting whenever I see her. She doesn't really have meaning or a backstory to me but I am really proud of her. I felt I had to include her.
12. "The Devil's Trademark": During a course we had to create blackout poetry and a coordinating piece of art. I had pulled a random page from the book *Black Beauty*. Upon starting on the project I realized how dark and almost disturbing the verbiage on the page was. The art just kind of flowed with the macabre aesthetic after that.
13. "Acrylic Pours": These were more of an experiment. I have painted on old vinyls prior and decided they would be a good option for trying acrylic pours. I tried to choose colors I do not typically work with and really enjoyed the results.
14. "Self Portrait": My self portrait is reminiscent of a stained glass window. If you mix acrylic paint with clear glue it will dry on glass similar to stained glass. I chose local wildflowers to surround me; Queen Anne's Lace, Red Clovers, Buttercups and Purple Coneflowers. I chose to not give myself a face not only to bare resemblance to windows I have seen before but also to represent that I am ever changing, growing and transforming