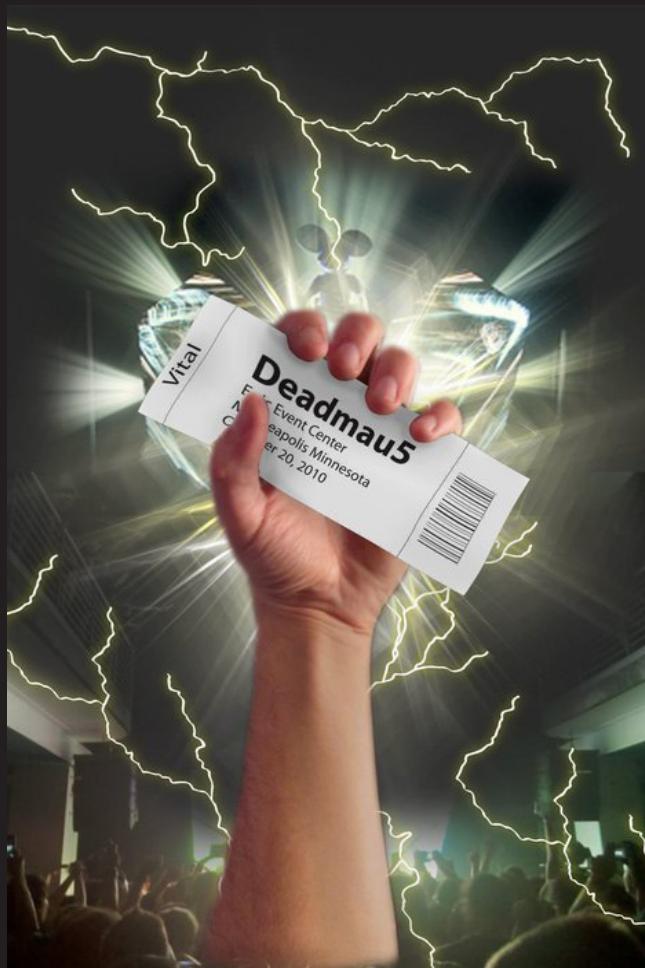


Stephen Nicksic



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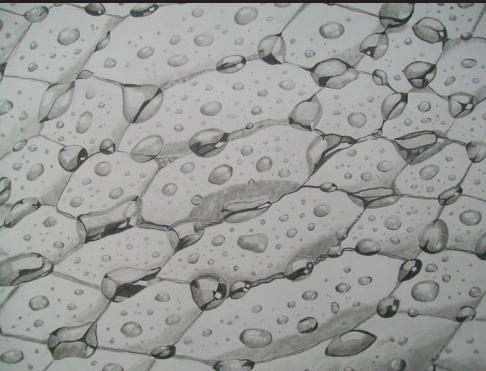


Artist Statement

I am attending UW Stout and majoring in Multi-media design for my passion of art. From a young age I enjoyed drawing and painting and has now developed into a serious career path. I have always been fascinated by film and has been a major inspiration for my art. I hope to work in the film industry some day either working as a concept artist, poster or set designer, or even working in film editing and production.



UW Wood County Art Projects



My first two years of college I attended the University of Wisconsin Wood County in Marshfield Wisconsin. There I fulfilled my general education requirements for my major. I took Drawing 1 and 2, 2D design, and 3D design. These are a few of the works I have done for the classes at UW Wood County.

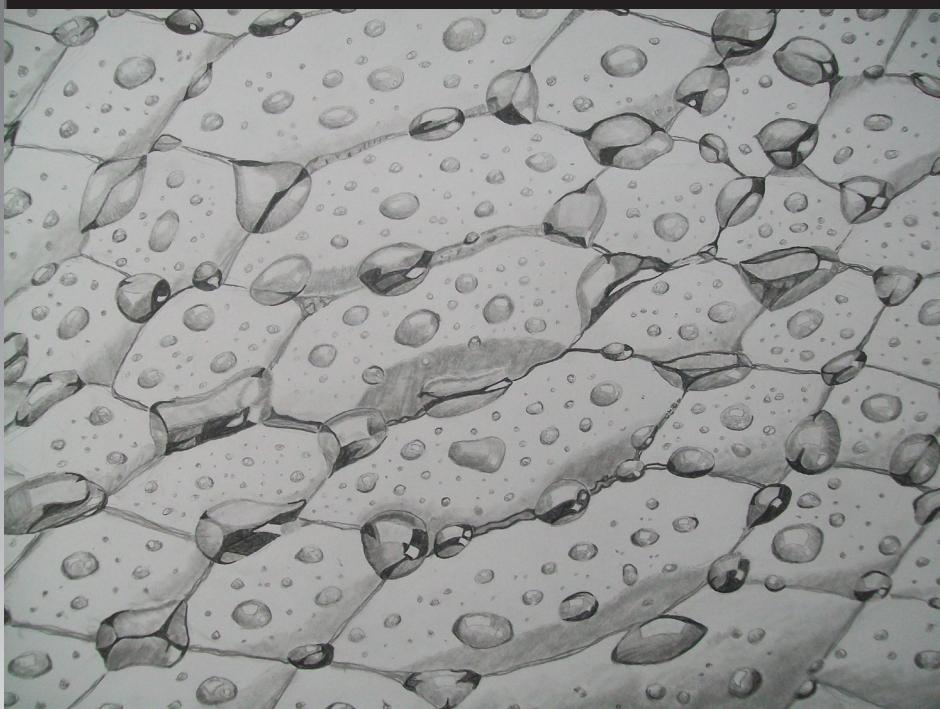
Film Drawings



For my Drawing class at the UW I did a series of drawings on film characters and other film themes. The first drawing is the Joker from the Dark Knight. I did his portrait using pastels because of the texture created by the pastels looked great because of the Joker's face paint in the film. The second picture is an ink drawing showing value. The drawing is a collage of several movie replicas together. Using Ink for the drawing gives it a bold look and really makes it stand out.



Texture Drawing



Another drawing from my Drawing 2 class was working with value and texture. We were suppose to select and image of texture and draw it in a very close up view. I chose to work with reptile scales and dew drops because of the great smooth repetition in the scales and dew drops. It gives a the drawing a very warm soft feel to it.

3D Design Plane Project

For my 3D Design class we worked with planes and repetition. We had to choose one plane and use it over and over to create a 3D artwork. I choose a puzzle piece as my plane. I started by cutting out the puzzle plane out of pieces of poster board, and using old puzzle pieces which I painted white and red. I then collaged the large puzzle pieces on top of the poster board creating a 3D surface. The sections where I cut out the puzzle pieces I painted a white or red back round to give some rhythm to the negative space. I was really happy with the final product, and optical illusion the positive and negative spaces cause on the eye.



Fire Department Calligraphy

In the past summer of 2010, my hometown of Marshfield Wisconsin built a new fire department. One of the fire-fighters that worked there saw some of my artwork in the past year, and called me to see if I would be interested in paint some calligraphy for the fire department. Which I happily excepted.



Calligraphy



"The history of the Marshfield Fire and Rescue Department stretches back to 1883, when 12 citizens formed the Pioneer Hose Company... beginning with a hand-drawn hose cart and six lengths of hose... a second group of volunteer firefighters formed the Hook and Ladder Company. The two groups of volunteers merged into the Marshfield Fire Department by a decision of the Marshfield Common Council on April 18, 1884."



"Much of the fledgling city, including the downtown area, was destroyed by fire. On June 27, 1887, a fire began in Upham's yard, a lumber yard and factory... by the end of the day over nine city blocks lay in ruins."



"Much of the city's fire fighting equipment was also lost that day. The mill's owner, William Henry Upham, decided to rebuild his factory, and thus, the City of Marshfield began its journey to become a city rather than a ghost town."

For the work I choose a cursive typography to give the calligraphy an older look. The calligraphy was painted for the firedepartment to represent the history of the Marshfield Fire Department in the lobby of the building. When they constructed the new department they gathered many old photographs from the original fire department, and images of the fire of 1887 which destroyed nearly half the city.

Emotion Poster Project



For my 2D Digital Imaging class we were to make a series of 3 Posters representing 3 emotions. I choose the emotions passion, ecstatic, and fearful. I felt these three emotions would make great visual posters.





Passion Poster

For my passion poster I wanted to do something very iconic and energetic. After this last summer I have started DJ'ing parties with a friend from work. Music has always been one of my strongest passions and DJ'ing is a way I can share that passion with others. So for my poster I wanted to create an image that would show that passion and energy I have while DJ'ing. The image of the heart was perfect to represent passion and the headphones representing the music. I chose several colors for the blood rather than red to give it a happy energetic feeling rather than bloody gore. The yellow background was the best color to show energy and excitement, and allowed the vibrant colors of blood stand out.

Ecstatic Poster

For my ecstatic poster I wanted to show something with a lot of energy and power. I decided to make a poster of one of my favorite musicians named Deadmau5. I went to one of his concerts and the music and performance was so powerful and energetic that I wanted to portray that in my poster. I used pictures I took at his concert and added some lighting effects to give it energy and power. I also added my hand and a ticket to show that it was the concert I was at.



Fearful Poster



For my fearful poster wanted to show the one thing that scares me most, death. I wanted to represent death by foreshadowing it, since it is inevitable. The best way to show that was by using a mirror. I wanted to show myself dieing in a sense, so I used the image of a skull with a black cloud overcoming by body. The dark could like effect was to represent death taking my body. It is a dark image, but it provokes such a strong emotion.

Postcard Project

In my 2D digital imaging class we were to create a series of 4 postcards that had some meaning to us. I choose films because films are what inspire me most. I choose four films that inspired me or made me view movies, or the art of storytelling in a new way. The four films I choose were Halloween, Pulp Fiction, Indiana Jones, and Watchmen.



Indiana Jones Postcard

Indiana Jones was the first film I watched that really got me into movies. Watching such a film at such a young age really got me into appreciating film throughout my childhood and teenage years. Indiana Jones was such a iconic and charismatic character. I envied his character as a child because he was able to travel the world and discover things no one else has ever seen, and defeating a few Nazis along the way. I used the silhouette of Indiana Jones because he is the most iconic character in Hollywood and wanted to portray that. I also used the image of the world map and plane to show his adventure.



Pulp Fiction Postcard



Pulp Fiction was one of the first films that really got me into story telling, and the plot of a film. Quentin Tarantino's use of narrative and dialogue really makes his films stand out among others. In pulp fiction, the film is broken up into several short stories that are all connected to one another. Not only is the film broken up into several different chapters, but the chapters are out of order, the time line does not flow like a typical film. Tarantino also uses heavy dialogue throughout the film but it is very well written. All the characters feel so real and gritty as if they are real people, not actors. For the postcard I wanted to have something really powerful, bright and in your face, just like the film itself. There isn't much action in the film, but when there is it is powerful and shocking. So that's way I wanted to portray in my image.

Halloween Postcard

I chose the film Halloween because it was the first film to really use music to completely alter the mood and feeling to a movie. The music itself worked as a character itself, and is one of films most famous movie scores. I also was impressed at how an actor must portray acting through a character who doesn't speak, and wears a mask. The way the actor moves his body, to give off emotion. No other horror movies were as successful at creating suspense and fear like Halloween. In my postcard I used the famous white mask the character Michael wears in the film. I also used the imagery of Michael standing in front of his house to visualize the tag line of the film, "The Night He Came Home."



Watchmen Postcard



The Watchmen film and graphic novel is a very artistic and visually appealing film. Zach Snyder the director of the film was able to create a film and have each scene and character just like the original graphic novel. The use of repetitive imagery and color tones, purple, yellow, green, really give the film the same feel as the original novel. In my postcard I used the same colors that were used in the graphic novel and film to continue the same theme.

Closing Statement

I hope this portfolio gave you a better look at the artwork I have done, and the direction I am going in my education and my career.

“I would not think of quarreling with your interpretation nor offering any other, as I have found it always the best policy to allow the film to speak for itself.”

-Stanley Kubrick

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