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Class of 2020

Miller Arts Scholars Outcomes Report; Fall 2018

Mini-Grant Outcome Report: Merging Different Materials and Artistic Processes

Over the past year, I have developed a strong interest in merging digital materials into my artmaking process. Through the Miller Arts Scholar's Mini-Grant, I have been able to incorporate the Wacom Intuos Pro Paper into my creative development. This drawing tablet has the unique feature of capturing traditional pen-to-paper marks and rendering them as scalable computer vectors. Through exploring the potential of the Pro Paper, I have become truly appreciative of its features; many of which cut out some of the stresses of working traditionally. Overall, the tablet has allowed me more creative freedom through the added possibilities of technical ability.

As stated in my proposal, I wanted to make a series of six painting studies using the Wacom tablet. This goal was in part to develop a new art series that explores the merging of digital and traditional art. In many ways though, I think that the Wacom tablet is just as valuable in producing loose sketches as it is in creating a finished picture. It is a huge help to have a digital record of my drawings. In my personal experience, physical sketchbooks often are always messier than anticipated and difficult to keep in good condition. Furthermore, there is always the issue of drawings bleeding through paper, so one is severely limited in the types of materials that can be used in an average sketchbook. With a digital drawing tablet, I am able to create the visual impression of any type of artistic material imaginable. I have even experimented with creating my own custom brushes in Photoshop.

One of the most exciting things about using a digital tablet is color accuracy. Often, when I using traditional media, developing a specific color can be frustrating. However, I have had the opposite experience when creating a digital color palette. It is incredible to be able to have easy and immediate access to the exact colors that you want to work with. Furthermore, the clarity of the colors are not muddied over time or by other colors. The layering feature in Photoshop allows users to create on different levels of a painting, enabling the preservation of previous work. The layering feature also allows one to explore different types of effects without the fear of ruining prior work.

I don't feel any creative restraint when I am working on the tablet using the pen-paper feature. I experienced a type of artistic freedom that is usually absent in pen sketches. I think this increased confidence stems from the comfort that everything is reversible in Photoshop. Even if I make a mistake on paper, it is always rectifiable in digital realm. Through this project, I have been able to begin my exploration in digital painting materials. I am excited to keep learning different ways to utilize the Pro Paper, and look forward to continue merging traditional and digital art processes.

Expenditures:

Wacom Intuos Pro Paper Large: \$549.95

Mini-Grant Funds Received: \$500.00

The Painting Studies

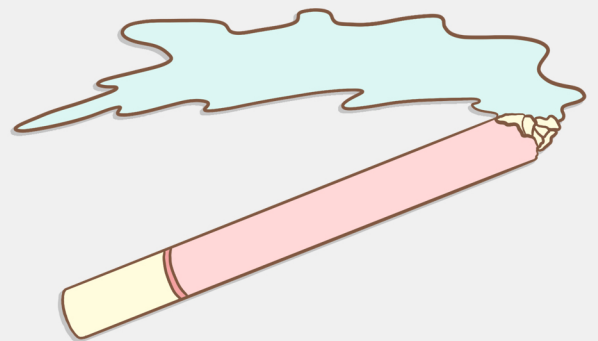
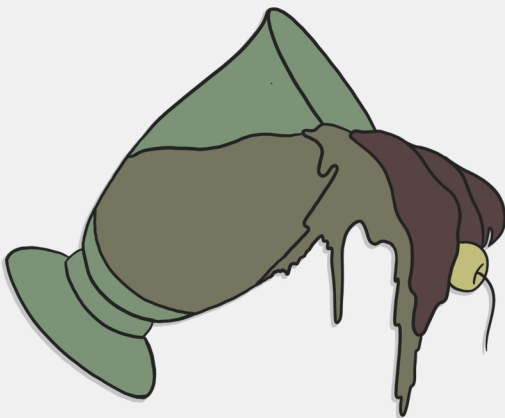
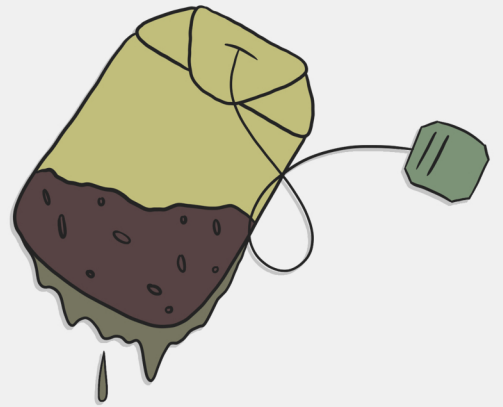
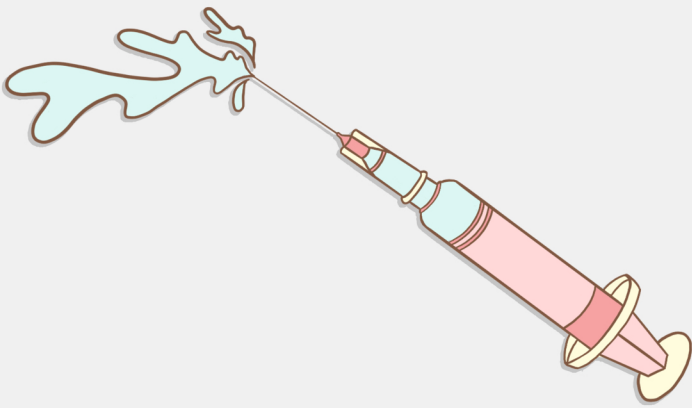
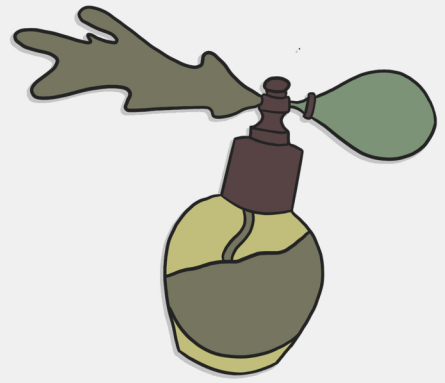
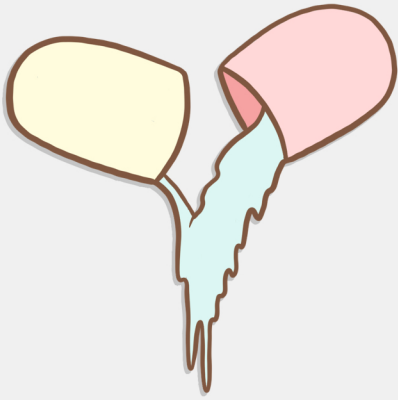
Even though this project's overarching objective is to merge digital and traditional processes, I feel compelled to provide a bit of thematic background on my six painting studies. I wanted to focus my studies on the beautiful clarity of digital colors. Therefore, in my paintings, I experiment how the color of familiar objects shapes our relationship towards them. In many ways, these paintings feel like the premise of a larger project in the future. The series is titled *ugly/pretty/ugly* .

Preliminary Wacom Sketches

The sketches below were created using the Wacom Intuos Pro Paper. After refining these preliminary sketches, I digitally painted the images and applied Photoshop effects. **On the following third page, please find the finished six painting studies.**

Thank you to the Miller Arts Scholars program and all of its generous donors for making this project possible. Being a Miller Arts Scholar has made a true impact on my artistic development, and I am deeply grateful for the program's overwhelming support.





ugly/pretty/ugly
six digital painting studies