

Exhibition Texts

Sophia Schoenbeck

Title: End & New Beginnings

Size: 38.1cm x 25.4cm

Medium: Gouache on illustration board

Date: January 2020

Exhibition Text: My diptych illustration, *End & New Beginnings*, was inspired by Paul Ranson and Utagawa Hiroshige. The piece represents the two opposites, end and new beginnings. I chose fall to represent the dying of one's old self and winter to represent a clean slate, renewal, rebirth, and hope for the future. My piece was additionally influenced by the animated series, "Over the Garden Wall", where themes of life and death and lost and found are seen throughout.

Title: The Curse

Size: 30.48cm x 30.48cm

Medium: Gouache and colored pencil on illustration board

Date: July 2020

Exhibition Text: My sequential illustration, *The Curse*, was inspired by Ida Rentoul Outhwaite and folklore surrounding fairy rings. It follows the story of a witch who finds an enchanted mushroom in the woods. In her excitement with her findings she fails to realize she's accidentally stepped into a fairy circle. This causes two fairies to come and curse her.

Title: Future Fertilizer

Size: 30.48cm x 25.4cm

Medium: Gouache on illustration board

Date: September 2020

Exhibition Text: *Future Fertilizer* is a gouache painting inspired by botanical illustrations by John Dunstall and Mary Grierson. The theme of the piece is based on the idea of how life and death are interconnected. Death is inevitable, but that death can fertilize new growth, new life and beauty into the world. The girl underground is surrounded by the roots of the plant to show how she's being used to give nutrients to the plant and new beginnings.

Title: Acceptance

Size: 20cm x 14.7cm

Medium: Drypoint

Date: October 2019

Exhibition Text: *Acceptance* is a drypoint inspired by Alphonse Mucha and Georgia O'Keeffe. The print represents the feeling that an LGBTQ+ person may experience when finally coming to terms with their own sexuality and accepting themselves for who they are. Each flower in the piece was incorporated for its symbolic meaning. Amaryllis symbolize pride, Trumpet Flowers show communication, Daisies represent hope, Blue Hyacinths show the constancy of love, and violets represent love between two women.

Title: All Eyes on Me

Size: 22.5cm x 15.3cm

Medium: Block Print

Date: September 2019

Exhibition Text: *All Eyes on Me* is a block print about the feeling of anxiety. It was inspired by pop artist Roy Lichtenstein. The piece highlights how one can feel overwhelmed when they feel they are in the spotlight. The girl is at the center of the piece surrounded by eyes. The eyes

symbolize the feeling one can have when they are facing anxiety. It can make one feel like all eyes are on them even when they actually are not.

Title: In Over My Head

Size: 22.23cm x 24.13cm

Medium: Watercolor and colored pencil

Date: December 2020

Exhibition Text: *In Over My Head* is a watercolor piece inspired by illustrations by Virginia Frances Sterret and Utagawa Hiroshige. The theme is focused on feeling trapped and overwhelmed. The seaweed wrapped around the girl shows the feeling of being pulled down while fighting to get free from one's situation. The surrounding marine life appears to go about its business with no concern for the girl's plight. Being under water emphasizes feelings of not being able to catch your breath in times of difficulty.

Title: Waiting

Size: 21.59cm x 22.23cm

Medium: Watercolor

Date: November 2020

Exhibition Text: *Waiting* is a watercolor piece inspired by landscape illustrations done by Juliet Percival. The theme of the piece focuses on the idea of being dissatisfied while at the same time not taking action to better it. I tried to show this feeling through symbolism in my piece. I used the bus stop to symbolize the idea of constantly waiting. The person with their eyes closed emphasizes the fact that no action is taken while she nods off. My color choices emphasize a rainy and dreary feeling.

Title: As the World Caves In

Size: 20.32cm x 17.78cm

Medium: Paper cut out

Date: May 2020

Exhibition Text: *As the World Caves In* is a piece inspired by Trung Le Nguyen and Tillie Walden's illustrations. My piece shows how life can feel like things are constantly going wrong and there's not much one can do about it. It can make a person feel hopeless and numb to everything around them. To convey this, I chose to have an atom bomb blowing up outside the girl's window while she lays in bed, unable to change the situation she is in. As the world falls apart she cannot even motivate herself to get up.

Title: Control

Size: 20.32cm x 24.13cm

Medium: Ink on illustration board

Date: October 2020

Exhibition Text: *Control* was inspired by illustrations done by Junji Ito. The theme of the piece is based on the feeling of losing control of your current life circumstances. In dreams losing your teeth symbolizes the feeling of losing control. I drew teeth falling down the drain to emphasize that this loss of control is something unable to get back. I captured a dream-like feeling by having the panels overlap. This shows how in dreams time is usually not continuous and there are gaps from one part to the next.

Title: Sewing Desk

Size: 17cm x 2.5cm x 9.5cm

Medium: Sculpture

Date: January 2021

Exhibition Text: I created a low fidelity prototype design for a new sewing desk for my mom. My goal for this project was to optimize storage and organization. I added containers, shelves, drawers and cabinets in order to best store everything from scissors to fabric. I was influenced by Marie Kondo's organization methods and industrial designer, Doug Dietz's, ability to focus on empathy when creating a design.