Lindsey Gabel
Fine Art
MENTORED BY
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Kellogg Honors College Capstone 2012

The FACES OF CAL POLY

The PROJECT

THE PURPOSE

Cal Poly Pomona is a diverse campus which supports a wide range of students. Represented here are just about every age, race, gender, and culture one could imagine, and it is this diversity which makes us strong. Most students on this campus do not appreciate that diversity, however, as being constantly exposed has led most to take it for granted.

My goal is to break both myself and the student body free from that isolated bubble and celebrate the different, wonderful faces on campus!

My project aims to show the diversity on campus by showing unique portraits of a wide range of students; these portraits will show not only physical features, but the personality and passion of those being portrayed.

In short, my purpose is to get to know people, and to enable YOU to get to know them as well.

THE PLAN

The final project is a collection of FIFTY five-by-seven inch digital portraits installed in the Kellogg Art Gallery during **Senior Show 2012**, the art show in which graduating Fine Art majors exhibit their Senior Projects.

My plan was to find fifty different students (or alumni) who were willing to sit down for a brief interview and a ten minute sketch session. I would then transform that life-drawn sketch into a piece of portrait art. I aimed to find a group of personalities as diverse as the rainbow!

Along with the displayed portraits, a process book will be available for viewers to read the actual interviews and artist notes, that way they can truly get to know the fifty models.

WHY PORTRAITS? BUT

I have always been a fan of faces. There is just something about a person's mug that fascinates me to no end.

When it came time to think of my senior project, I knew right off the bat that it was going to involve human figures, but I didn't know much more than that.

Then, after several ideas came and went, I decided on doing something involving portraits. After all, I would like to work as a portrait artist, so what better way to rack up some practice?

Originally, I was planning on doing fifteen self portraits (I would draw myself from infancy to senility) but I just was not staying interested.

Finally, I decided that what I really wanted was to capture a whole host of people. Because drawing faces just plain floats my boat!

THE ARTIST STATEMENT

My art is primarily figurative and focuses especially on human figures and the face. I work primarily with digital media, specifically with the programs Photoshop and Corel Painter. Working in this medium allows me to work quickly and take risks that I may not otherwise have taken; the undo button allows me to make mistakes without repercussion.

With this piece, I chose to address the uniqueness that can still exist within a large group. Presented are only fifty of the 20,000 plus students on campus; seen from afar, you see a blur of faces and colors, yet each portrait is unique and different from any other, just like the models themselves. I chose digital painting because it allows me to use a wide variety of styles to make each portrait a unique reflection of the personality of the model who posed for it.

All fifty models are real Cal Poly Pomona students either currently enrolled or graduated. They helped to actively shape the final piece by giving specific elements they felt would represent them, which were worked into their portrait. To learn more about the people behind the portraits, please consult the booklet located next to my piece.

The PROCESS

STEP ONE
PAPERWORK
The willing subject must first sign a model contract. This is a standard procedure when an artist uses the likeness of an actual person.

With this standard contract signed, the model gives me permission to use zer likeness for all purposes stated in the contract (including on this poster and process book!)

STEP TWO
INTERVIEW
Before any art happens, I give a brief 12 question interview. These questions are designed to get to the meat of the person.

These questions also give me clues as to what portrait style would be best for each person. I also give them the chance to request specific things.

STEP THREE
PHOTOS
After the interview, I discuss what type of pose the model would like to hold. After all, they have to keep still for ten minutes, which is tricky!

Reference photos are a very crucial part of any art. They help the artist get those little details they may have missed the first time around.

ALL DIGITAL

STEP FOUR
LIVE SKETCH
This is the last stage that the model is physically present.

Using my equipment, I draw them directly as I see them for TEN MINUTES exactly.

This is the drawing's skeleton.

STEP FIVE
PERSONALITY
I use the interview answers to add that extra spark of personality to the drawing.

This can sometimes differ vastly from the initial sketch.

STEP SIX
REFINE
Here is where I finish composing the piece.

This means the lines are final and the placement is locked. The drawing most likely does not change too much after this step.

STEP SEVEN
ADD COLOR
This is my favorite step!

Color is added either under or over the lines, depending on the style of portrait.

Here is where it comes alive!

STEP EIGHT
EDIT
The last digital step.

I play with the color settings to ensure that they will print well, as well as saving the file in the correct format.

STEP NINE
PRINTING
Once all fifty portraits had been completed, it was time to get them printed.

I had each portrait printed on a 5x7" piece of archival-quality glossy photo paper.

Luckily for me, COSTCO prints quickly and cheaply, without sacrificing quality or color.

STEP TEN
MOUNTING
Each portrait is mounted on a sturdy 5x7" masonite board that is only an eighth of an inch thick.

A hanging hook is then bonded to the back.

This gives the portrait a sturdy feel whilst still maintaining a clean and uncluttered presentation.

FINAL STEP
DISPLAY!
The collection of fifty portraits is hung for display at the W. Kern and Janet Kellogg University Art Gallery.

It is being shown as part of **Senior Show 2012**, a show which features the Senior Projects of the graduating Fine Art students, and will run from May 15th to June 9th.

Kassandra Palmas	Allison Edgerley	Zackary McClure	Stephanie Jolitz	Melissa Zukle	Celia Bentsen	Stephanie Sosa	Anna Martin	Colleen Mae Tin	Lauren Yen
Victoria Garcia	Becca Otis	Eduardo Zermeno	Celina Hernandez	Natalie La	Eduardo Vega	Katelyn Norris	Renee Chouinard	Katie Flores	Cristina Garcia
Zoe Lance	Marcus Lam	Andrew Hipp	Miguel Enriquez	Marlene Belmar	Dya Cangiano	Robert Bauer	Justin Page	Matthew Wood	Cinthya Martinez
Edward Samuel Lee II	Cynthia Vlasquez	Joy Chang	Amy Wrightstone	Aaron Springer	Elyse Johnson	Morgan Klein	Robert Cangiano	Christopher Myers	Emily Birkeland
Lindsey Gabel	Geoffrey Dam	Andrew Robertson	Allison Bachman Okihiro	John Derby	Andrea Garcia	Sarah Mindham	Omar de Santos	Katie Blaine	Christina Kogat