

Artists' Statements

Stacey Marie Summers

Cthulhu: I started this charcoal drawing on grey paper while I was in my sophomore year at Methodist. I had the idea to combine my love of making art with my love of literature, attempting to render what I believe the authors of classic literature were trying to describe in their characters. This drawing was my first attempt, taking the haunting monster in "Call of the Cthulhu" by H.P. Lovecraft as my first portrait for the series. I applied the skills I had learned at MU and my imagination, creatively filling in where Lovecraft left a gap in the description, to come up with the final image. I am currently working on another piece for this series: drawing from life and using pastels, I am creating the White Witch from C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*. I have plans to keep going with other characters.

Walter Barnett

My work is an expression of who I am, what I believe, and how I view the world around me. I seek to create pieces that speak to me or respond to new challenges. As a graphic design artist, most of my work is made with a digital background. However, I aspire to be the best I can be in all mediums, whether I'm creating a logo, digital illustration, or painting, or working in any other medium. I want my images to inspire viewers to think critically and creatively, and to make up their own stories. Today's culture plays a big role in what I create. I find life amazing and believe that it is our duty to sculpt our life into whatever we want and find creative ways to try to perfect that sculpture, realizing that our effort always leaves room for improvement. As a designer, I want to produce work that will be accessible to everyone. If I can move someone emotionally, mentally, or psychologically, it is all worth it.

World Crisis 1.2: I used Photoshop to combine an abstract watercolor painting with a photograph I found. The piece is meant to convey the feeling of distress in the world and the chaos we live in.

Self-portrait (Ball Is Life): This is a charcoal piece created from a photograph I made. I used dark shades and different techniques to show depth.

King Kong Movie Poster: This is one of my first digital illustrations. I used a Wacom tablet and Adobe Illustrator software. I wanted to emphasize the seriousness in King Kong's eyes as he is comforted by a woman he has become obsessed with.

Octophant: For this piece I set out to combine two things that normally wouldn't be associated with one another: the creativity of the octopus and the wisdom and knowledge of the elephant. In executing this merger, I wanted to project a lively and energetic feel as well as suggest movement and creation/imagination.