

GREER GIVENS

2020

Electricity

I began this piece with the intent to create a combination of sequential narrative and portrait, with focus on a concept or story accompanied by a main figure. I considered aspects that I like to incorporate into my own personal art, as this project allowed the use of any subject matter or medium. Specifically, I wanted to touch upon more abstract concepts that could be translated into a more interesting or strange visual. In addition to this, I knew for sure I wanted to compose a piece using a combination of mediums in order to appeal to the senses of the viewer and create something to be examined. I was interested in the relationship between different people's psyches, bodies, and energies, and began sketching ideas for the work.

I exhibited many strengths and many weaknesses in the completed piece. First of all, I believe I communicated a strong sense of color in this piece, in that the colors complement each other well and are adequately blended to create a sense of dramatic brightness and shadow. The saturated purples and pinks juxtaposed next to intense flashes of yellow was intentional in order to communicate a feeling of shock. In addition to this, I believe my linework was successful in that the different textures and composition of lines in the work were diverse and well-done. The sharp points of flashes to the soft, more rounded coral-like shapes were carefully composed. On the other hand, I exhibited weaknesses in my consistency of my colors. Some forms in the piece, such as the human subjects, become faded in their coloring and become messy. In addition to this, the inclusion of black pen outlines and shading on the soft, saturated colors was too jarring. Perhaps using darker values that were not quite black would have been better suited for outlines.

This work was a personal subject that I found very interesting, but have rarely seen depicted in art or media that I have accessed before. I often find myself questioning my own presentation of myself, versus how others perceive me, versus my true self. I find relationships between people, toxic and healthy alike, to be much more complex than we can truly understand. I wanted to convey the dynamic nature of these human relationships by converting them into strange, disembodied energies that emerge from people and into the world. The personalities of people, their true selves, and their presented selves are a product of environmental stimuli as well as unimaginable processes inside a person. I simply wanted to create an erratic, bright, and manic depiction of human energies. I wanted the audience to reflect upon the energies they emit into the world and others as well as their own auras and qualities that make them unique. While brainstorming for this piece, we were instructed to cite artists that inspired our compositions or ideas. I cited contemporary cartoonists Rodney Greenblat and Gary Panter, who both utilize saturation of colors and erratic linework to create characters and worlds that dazzle and entice viewers.

A-S 102 2D

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