

Mason Gohde - Work Created, 2021

This piece was my first time using charcoal so much of the process work involved experimenting with and learning the medium. I often prefer methods using fine lines over broad ones so charcoal was a challenging switch. I learned a variety of new methods including proper layering and proportions as well as new techniques for creating objects that read as the proper materials. I experimented with a fine hatching for the canvas only to forgo it in favor of a softer appearance. Lastly, I picked up how to portray different qualities of glass objects. When choosing my perspective I took care in selecting an angle with a strong sense of unity.

The work is strong in a few elements and principles but definitely lacks in others. I tried to maintain the unity apparent off the page while also pushing a somewhat imaginary range of value. I think the value created leads to a pretty strong contrast and balance between objects, yet has dulled much of the emphasis I could have focused on. I also think that some of the shapes in the work are lacking, namely my ellipsis.

This piece means a lot to me as my first use of charcoal. Since creating it, I've gotten much more comfortable with charcoal and other broad line mediums. Content-wise I could equate it to how college has been for me thus-far. While it's often a mess and can be very stressful, the positives experiences sit above the negatives. I was inspired by Dutch still lifes of the seventeenth century and worked to bring that style into the piece.. The strong darks contrasted with sparing highlights and a lack of apparent contour lines are how I attempted to bring that style into the work.

A-S130-004: Drawing

Amy Hadden