

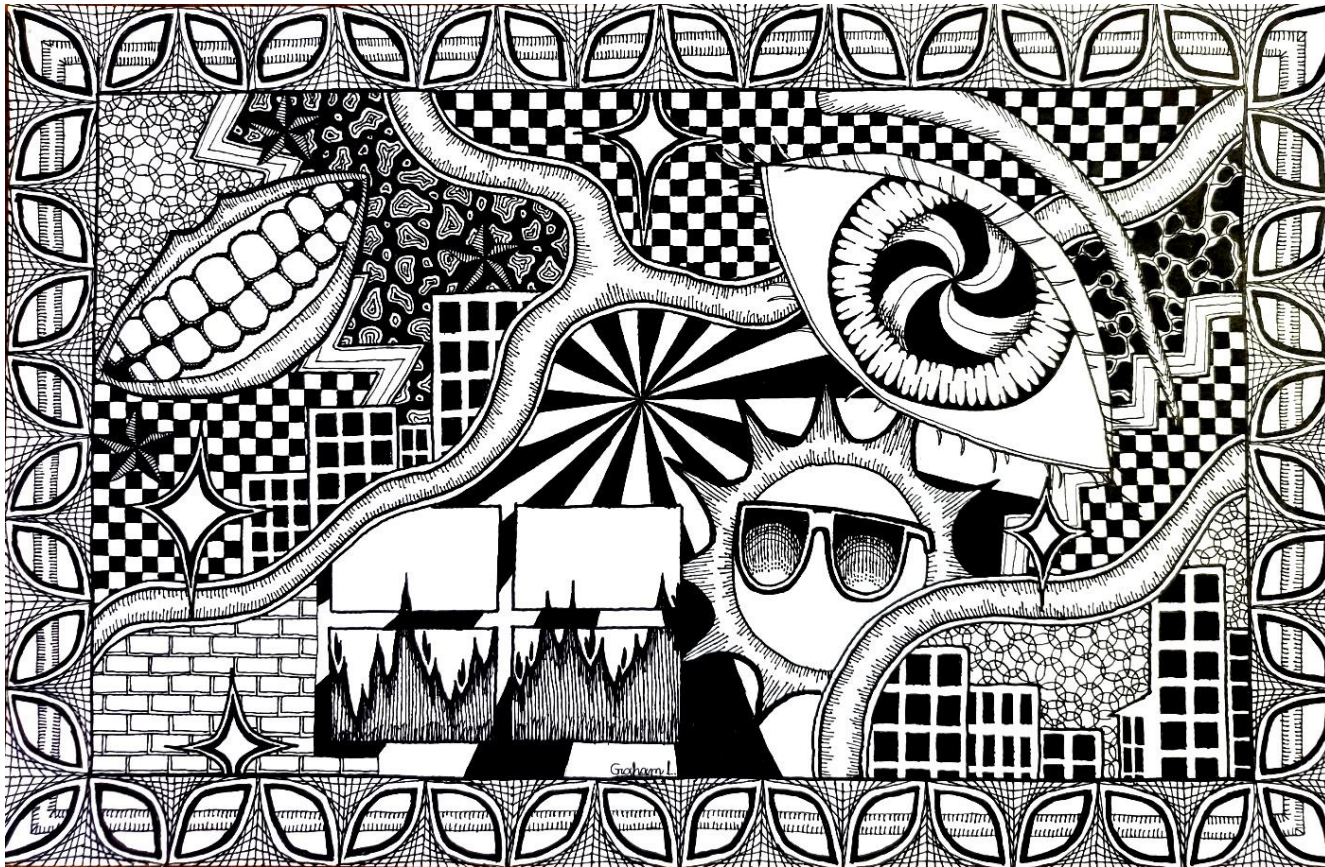
Graham Louwers

Design Portfolio

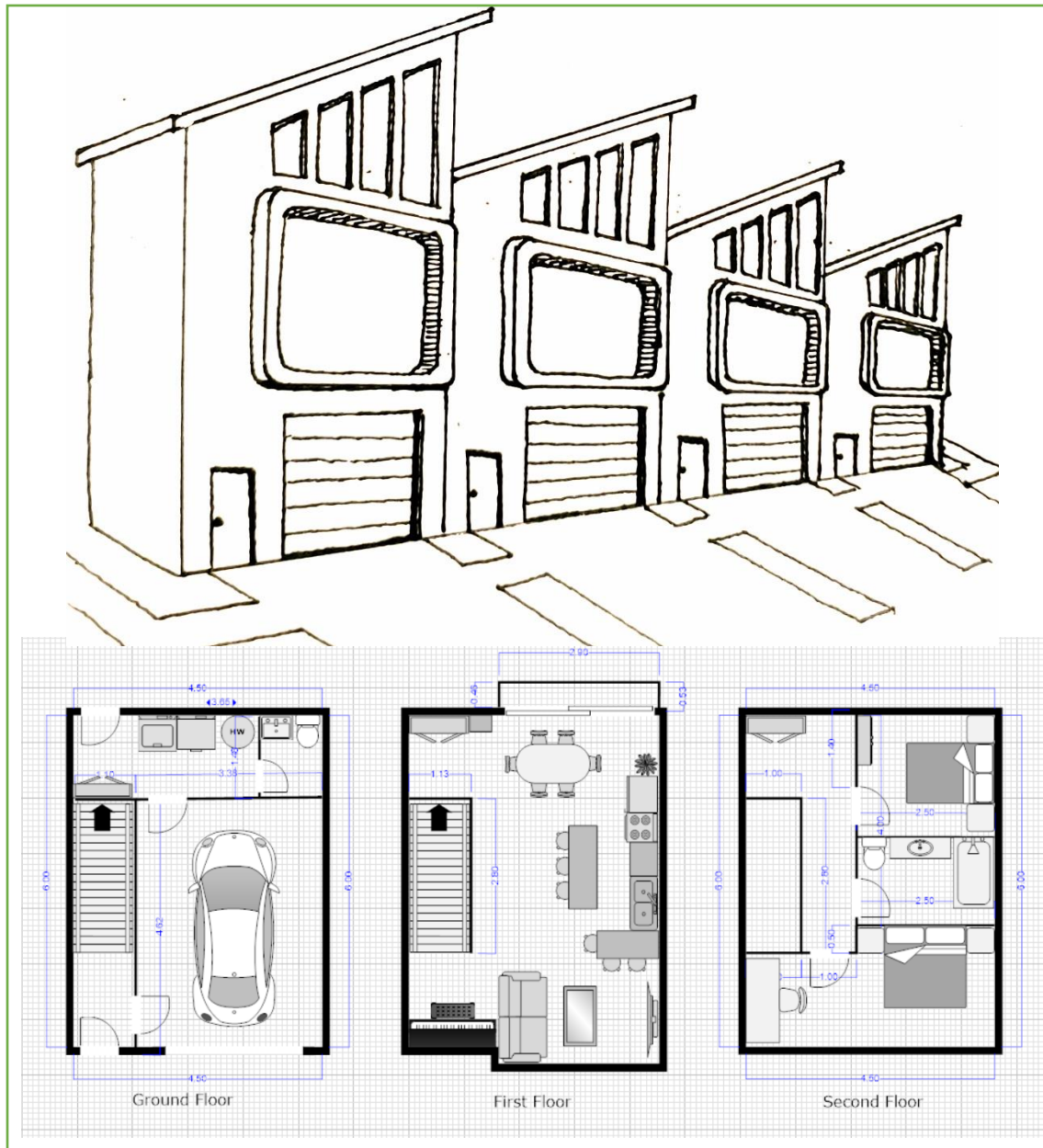
This portfolio was created as part of my application for the University of Calgary's Master of Landscape Architecture program and is meant to showcase my creative ability, design potential, and technical skills. This portfolio consists of artwork done in a variety of mediums, photography, and school-related projects.

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Created using pen and ink, this piece is focused on pattern and texture and utilizes a large amount of detailed line work. A variety of different patterns, as well as random images, were used to make this piece interesting to look at, with line work and cross-hatching being used to create value.



This piece depicts a high-density housing complex and associated floor plan. The houses were drawn using sharpie and the floorplan was created using the program SmartDraw. This concept was inspired by an Airbnb I recently stayed at in Squamish, BC.



Drawn with sharpie and pencil crayon, this poster was created to promote a class project I was participating in. The project involved encouraging intercultural communication on campus and had a Dr. Who theme. I was working with Chinese and Japanese international students for this project, so I made sure to incorporate their countries' flags into the poster.



This is one of my favourite pieces largely due to its unusual method of creation. First, the sheet of paper was completely covered with a layer of white oil pastel. Second, a layer of India ink was then painted over top of the pastel. Finally, a metal tool was used to scrape away the India ink and reveal the white pastel underneath.



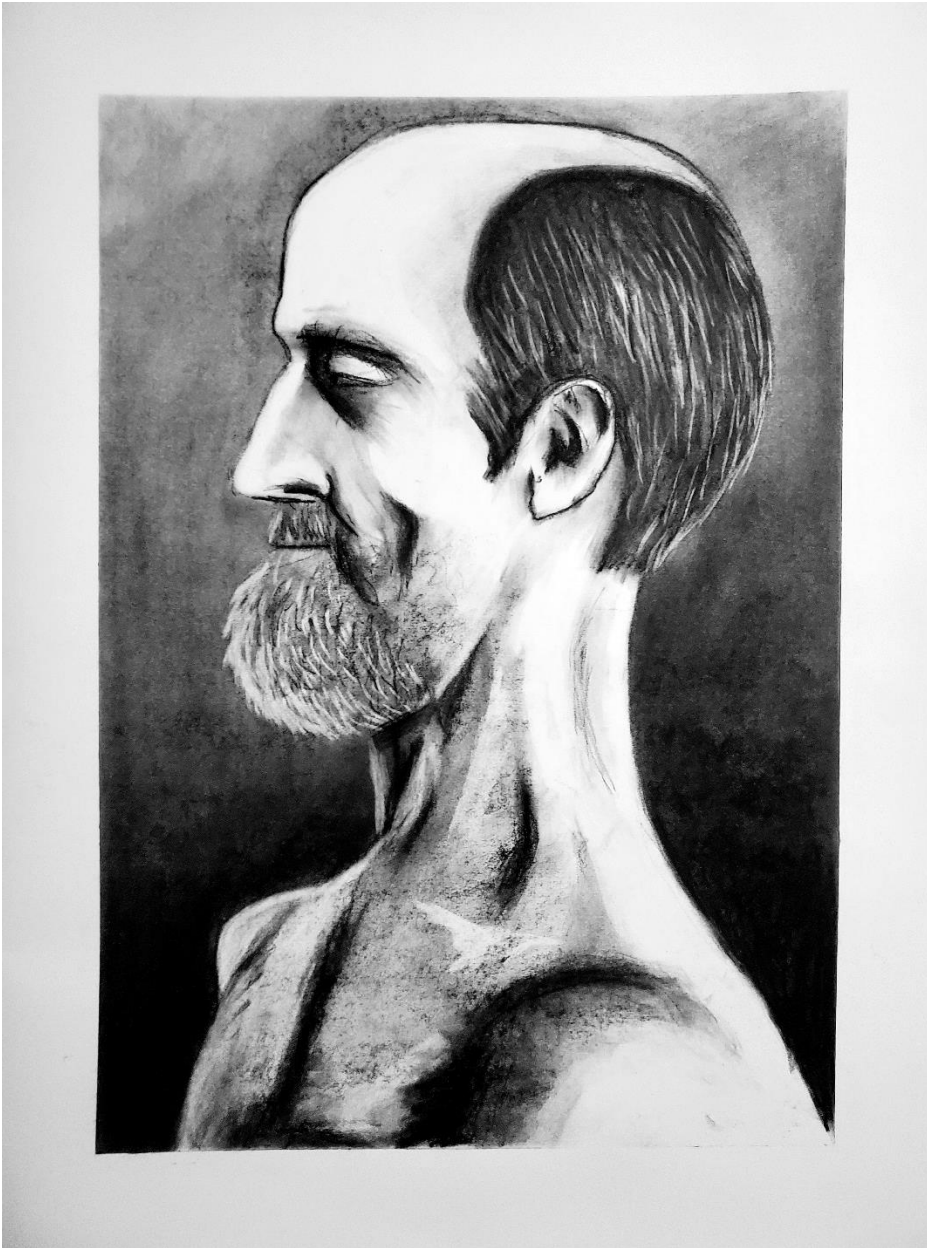
Created entirely with sharpie, this pixelated self-portrait was a lengthy project for me as it is composed entirely of half-inch squares, each being one of three values. Its creation involved taking a photo of myself in dramatic lighting, editing the photo to try and create distinct regions of equal value, transferring the photo to a piece of paper through the use of grids, and using the grid on the piece of paper to colour in the squares while using the original photo as a reference.



This self-portrait, which was drawn using charcoal, is focused on realism. Being the first self-portrait I have done of myself, I wanted it to be as neutral as possible (expression, lighting, face angle) so I could focus on achieving realistic face proportions which is something I find difficult to get correct.



These two drawings are focused on realism and are some of my earliest experiences with charcoal, being done in my first two years of high school (the frog in grade 8 and lizard in grade 9). My favourite part of these two pieces is the texture on the skin of the lizard and frog.



This is one of my favourite pieces largely due to the fact it was completed in one hour. I am usually rather slow with my artwork, but due to this drawing being of a live model in one of my art classes, my timeframe to complete it was much shorter than usual. I am very happy with this piece, not only because it was completed quickly, but also because it is of a real person, drawn with accurate proportions without the use of any photo-reference.



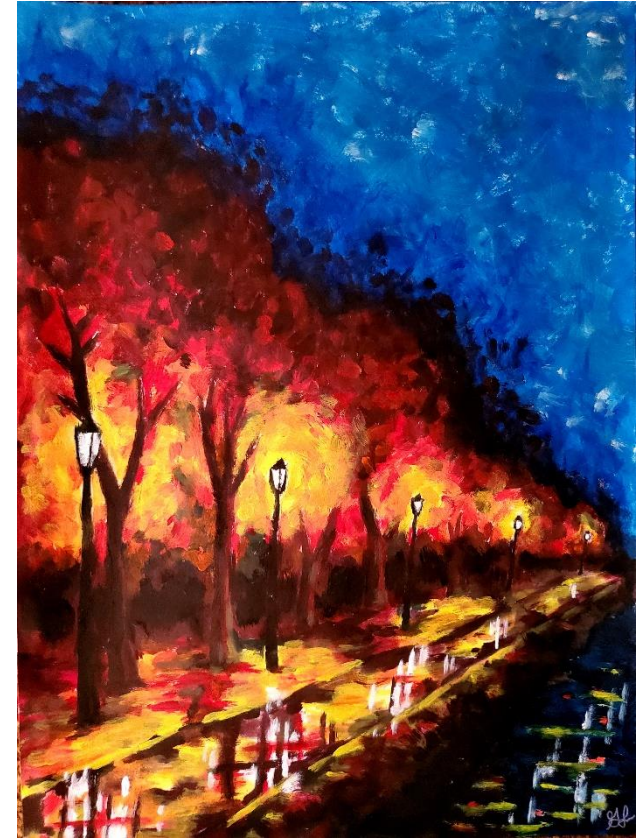
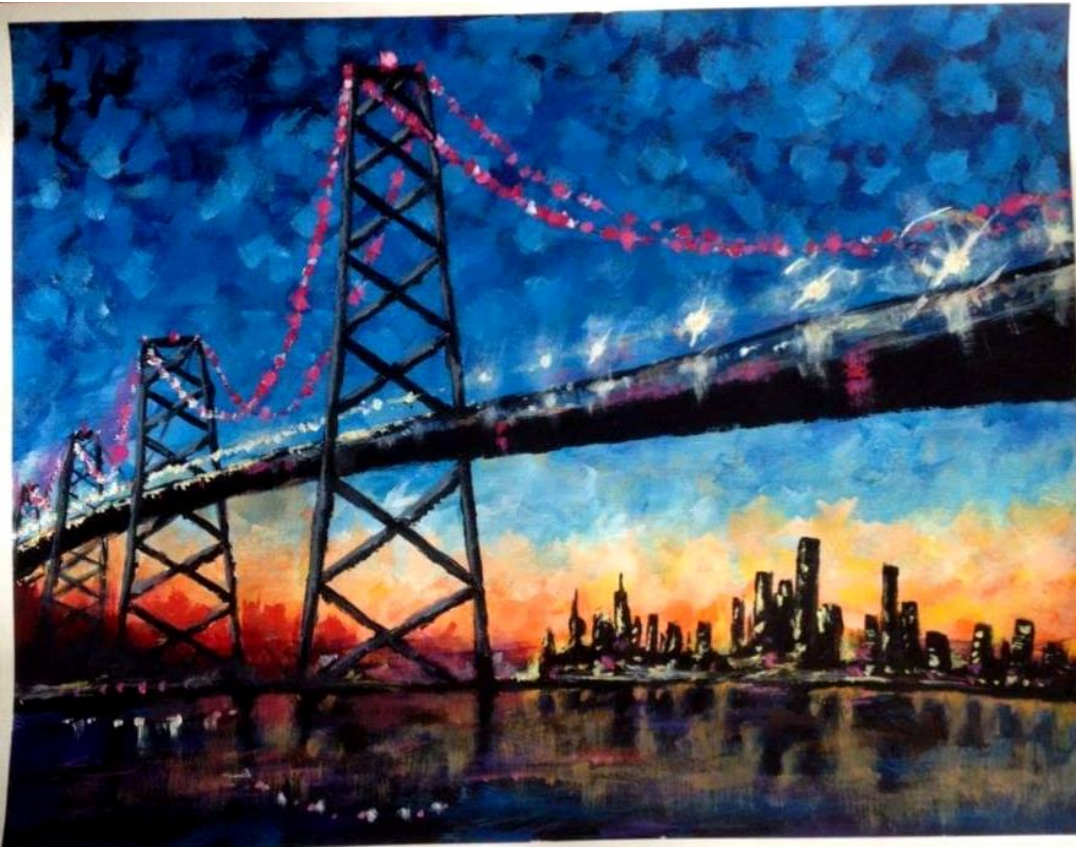
This piece was created for one of my university art class assignments. The assignment criteria was a bit unusual, requiring the subject to be a creature comprised of three objects, two of which being inorganic and one being organic. After a lot of brainstorming, I decided to draw a swordfish (organic) with an actual fencing sword for its bill and kitchen knives for its fins (inorganic). In addition to this creature, we also needed to incorporate atmospheric and one-point perspective into the drawing which I did through the use of a bridge.



This piece is another university art class assignment whose criteria involved creating an album cover that incorporates one type of perspective. To make it seem like an album cover, and to satisfy the perspective criteria, I decided to draw a double exposure of someone singing into a mic with a one-point perspective city inside of him. A goal I had for this piece was to create emotion which I feel I achieved as it has elements of loneliness and isolation.



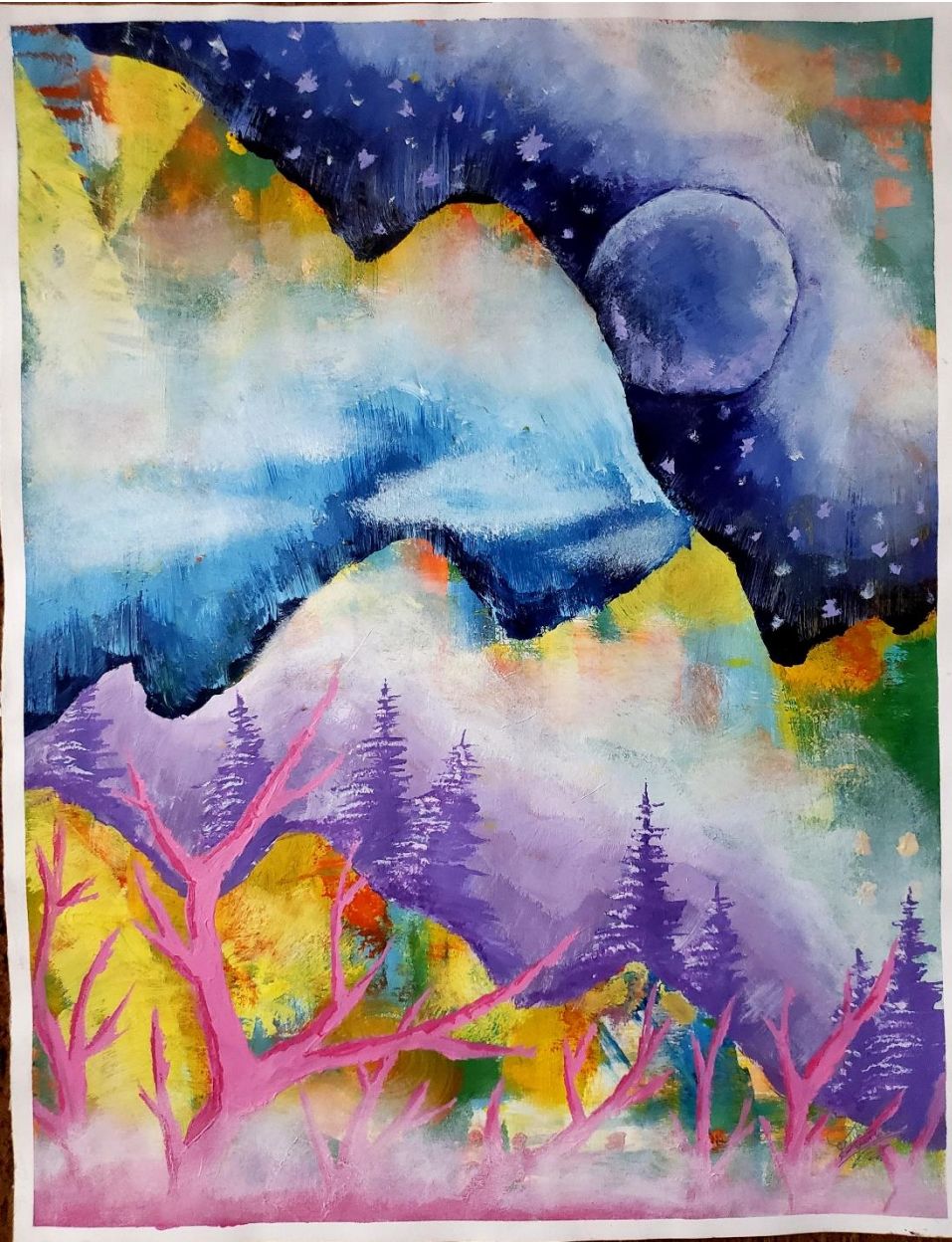
Focused on realism, these landscapes were painted in acrylic and are based on local places: Beacon Hill Park in Victoria, BC (left) and Neck Point in Nanaimo, BC (right). Realism has always been my preferred style of art as I'm not fond of the subjective nature of most other art styles. Though these pieces were quite open in terms of their criteria, the landscape on the right was focused on creating a vast amount of open space without the painting feeling empty.



These two paintings were done in an impressionist style using acrylic. The goal of impressionism is to use thick brushstrokes in order to create an “impression” of what you are painting. Impressionism is not a common style for me to paint in and I often find myself trying to make my impressionist pieces more realistic than need be.



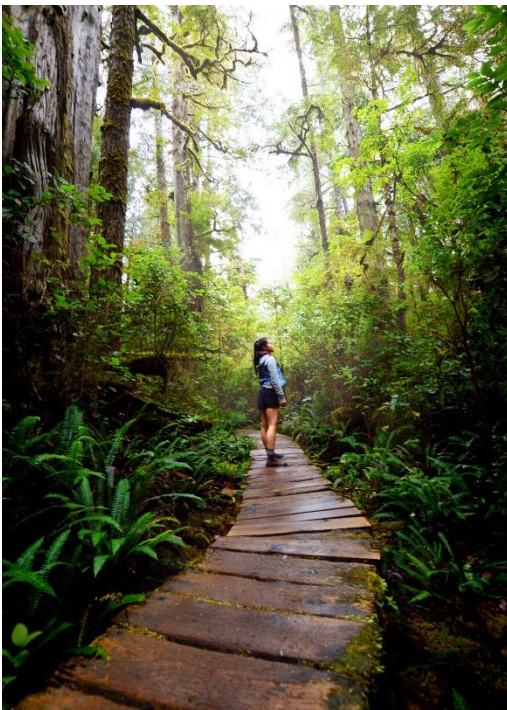
This is my favourite painting I have done as I feel it is a cool concept that is very clean and simple. The northern lights were created by dragging paint in one direction with a dry brush and the small stars filling the background were created by spraying white paint onto the painting with toothbrush bristles. I find the cool colour pallet and clean gradient makes the piece very appealing to look at.



Contrasting with the last piece, this painting uses many different colours and has a lot going on within it. Though I am not a big fan of this painting, I felt I should include it as it is one of the few paintings I have done in an abstract style. I was encouraged not to do any planning with this painting and to just “go with the flow” which I think allowed me to create something very unique and interesting.



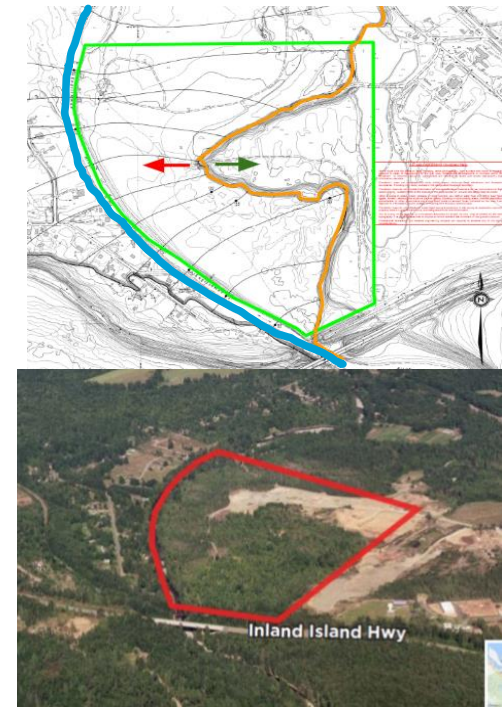
This is a monochromatic acrylic painting that uses different values of the same colour to create depth and form. The painting depicts a close-up image of a tiger that is difficult to make out if viewed from too close.



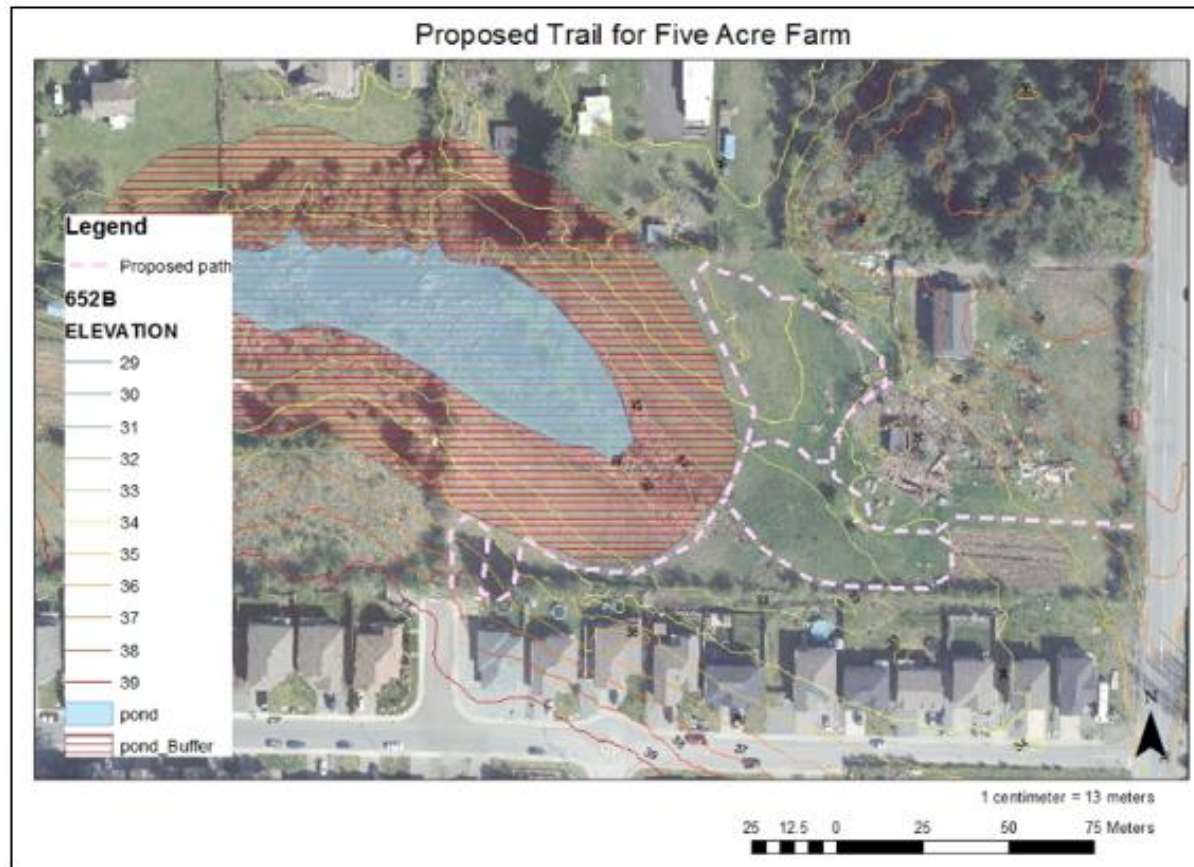
Photography is a pretty big hobby of mine and these are some of my favourite shots. All of these photos were taken by me at local places and each have a decent amount of editing done to them with the top-right photo even having some photoshop.



In addition to photography, I enjoy using photoshop to create interesting images and illusions. These are some of my favourite photoshop images, most of which are done using a double-exposure technique which basically involves combining two photos into one. Beyond making cool edits to photos, I feel that photoshop is an important skill that has many different applications.



Created and presented with a partner, these images show our proposed plans for a local undeveloped site which was being studied by our Field Studies in Geography class. Creating a proposal for this site was the objective of our final project and these images were pulled straight from our presentation. The general idea of our proposal was to create a low-impact ecovillage that preserves existing uses and trail networks within the site. An important aspect of our proposal is that the ecovillage would be constructed outside of the floodplain of the nearby river (top right photo) and within previously disturbed areas (bottom right photo).



This map was created as part of a group project and depicts a proposed trail network through a local site. The map was created using GIS and was designed by myself with the help of three other group members. Important aspects of this trail proposal include the 20m buffer zone around the nearby riparian area and the carefully planned route that maintains a wheelchair accessible steepness.



This is a 3D model of a ranch-style house that I created back in my high school drafting class. The model was created with corrugated poster board, thin plastic, and cardboard and includes a fully shingled roof, interior walls with wallpaper, and working doors. Though floor plans were created for this model, they went missing a long time ago.



Created during a trip to the beach, this is a 3D model of a modern house that I made from sand. Creating sandcastles and sand sculptures is one of my favourite things to do at the beach but this is the first and only “sand house” I have ever made. Due to the unpredictable nature of sand as a building material, the final design of this house differed a lot from the original plan. The main tools I used for sculpting the house were a cement scraper and a thin, metal ruler and the house took me approximately 5 hours to complete (a lot of which was spent digging sand with a small shovel).