

AP 2-D Art and Design Portfolio

Hao Li XX0W58V3 2025

Written Evidence

Sustained Investigation

Identify the inquiry that guided your sustained investigation.

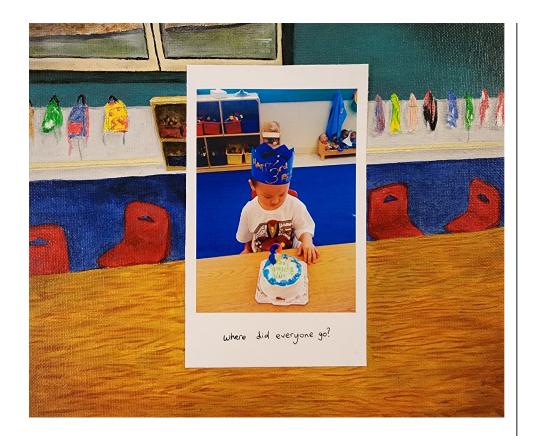
Response:

I am leaving behind a life full of memories. How can I process these moments through old photos? Can I physically expand upon a memory and explore its borders? How much can a memory change me, or I change them? What's the difference between reality and recollection? Can I extract a feeling, emotion, or influence from a lost memory that has affected my identity? Has my relationship with art (essential to self-expression) changed through mediums and styles? Are there ways to portray the hazy, elusive, or fragmented nature of a memory through material, color, and texture?

Describe ways your sustained investigation developed through practice, experimentation, and revision.

Response:

I aimed to revisit memories by expanding photos through collage with oil paint, altering the context to fit my modern interpretation (1, 3, 5). I then realized how details of memories had faded, but not how I felt about them. I decided to portray my emotional reaction to photos and what I visualize now (4, 7, 9, 14). By practicing with different mediums (13), I became aware of my range of expression by reviving old artworks with evolved styles (11, 12). Through experimentation with gold leaf (15), I sought to implement the material to highlight and elevate the core facets of myself (7, 9, 14).



Sustained Investigation

Height: 8

Width: 10

Materials:

Oil paint; liquin as thinner for

underpainting; glossy paper for film-like

print; .35mm Micron pen

Process(es):

Pencil sketch; oil underpainting then

layered

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Family album photograph that was

edited for collage



Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Oil paint; liquin as thinner for underpainting; .35 Micron pen; photo paper; cardstock; glossy paper

Process(es):

Tested paper types for print; pencil sketch; oil underpainting then layered

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Sustained Investigation

Height: 9

Width: 12

Materials:

Watercolor for underpainting then layered with green, yellow, orange, gray, red oil paints for tone

Process(es):

Quick, meaningful, and impressionistic strokes to evoke the vibrancy and movement in the environment

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Sustained Investigation

Height: 10

Width: 10

Materials:

Two blue oil paints with galkyd medium to increase gloss and enhance the dreamlike quality

Process(es):

Bold impasto strokes add texture, movement, sense of fluidity to the piece, alluding to boat trip

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Sustained Investigation

Height: 8

Width: 10

Materials:

Burnt Sienna, Payne's Gray oil paint, et al.; liquin mixed in as a thinner for underpainting

Process(es):

Pencil sketch; oil underpainting then layered using "fat over lean" principle

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):







Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Oil paint; variety of oil paint mediums

(liquin, galkyd, gamsol)

Process(es):

Painted mts. in different styles; experimented with fluid mediums, color

palettes, and palette knife



Sustained Investigation

Height: 20

Width: 10

Materials:

Oil paint creates ethereal focus; gold leaf depicts endless future paths branching from objects

Process(es):

Saw similarity to tree form in first draft and revised canvas size to fit new idea and sketch

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Black paper; gold leaf; Lamp Black, Mid

Yellow, and Burnt Umber oil paint

Process(es):

Made a sketch in Procreate and then made draft; revised idea with another Procreate sketch

Use of Digital Tool(s): Yes

Digital Tool(s) used:

Procreate to design sketches

Citation(s):



Sustained Investigation

Height: 10

Width: 20

Materials:

Green, blue, magenta oil paint, et al.;

galkyd; photo paper; gold leaf

Process(es):

Pencil sketch of childhood court; acrylic underpainting; impasto strokes with galkyd & palette knife

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Pencil; green, blue, magenta oil paint, et al.; galkyd; acrylic for underpainting

Process(es):

Pencil sketch; acrylic underpainting; impasto strokes with galkyd & palette knife for textured court



Sustained Investigation

Height: 18

Width: 24

Materials:

Crayons for grass; colored pencils for clouds; oil pastels and paint for trees; watercolor for sky

Process(es):

Childhood artwork expanded with variety of mediums learned; more advanced techniques on outer edges



Sustained Investigation

Height: 24

Width: 18

Materials:

Watercolor; 5B pencil; .35mm Micron

pen; black Prismacolor marker

Process(es):

Older artwork expanded with new styles

and mediums on tree branches



Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Watercolor; pencil; colored pencils; .35mm Micron pen; Micron Brush pen

Process(es):

Experimented in mediums to find balance in overall composition to show evolution of self-expression

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Image of the Acropolis and Porsche 911



Sustained Investigation

Height: 10

Width: 10

Materials:

Gold leaf; Burnt Sienna and Titanium White oil paint; .35mm Micron pen

Process(es):

Gold leaf transforms family into something sacred & valuable; warm palette conveys comfort & safety

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):





Sustained Investigation

Height: N/A

Width: N/A

Materials:

Gold leaf; pencil; Burnt Sienna, Titanium

White, Magenta oil paint, et al.

Process(es):

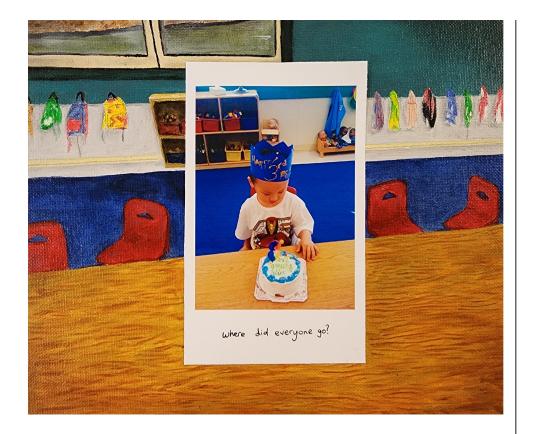
Gold leaf experimentation: painted gold leaf covered canvas with oil paint and precise adhesive use

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):

Myth of Sisyphus: his eternal struggle pushing a rock up a mt.; the intrinsic

value of struggle



Selected Works

Height: 8

Width: 10

Idea(s):

I remember the photo, not the friends.

This piece separates the moment from the faded memory.

Materials:

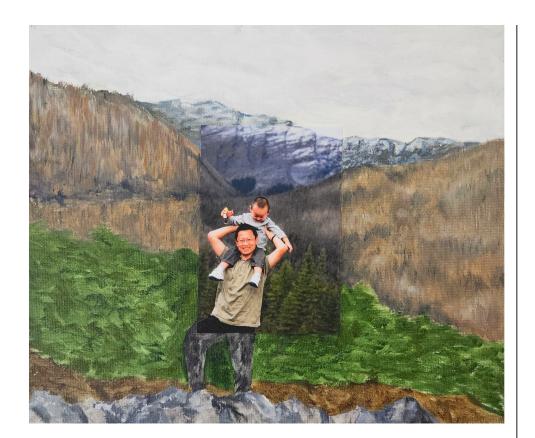
Oil paint; liquin as thinner for underpainting; glossy paper for film-like print; .35mm Micron pen

Process(es):

Pencil sketch; oil underpainting then layered

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Selected Works

Height: 8

Width: 10

Idea(s):

I love mountains, but lost this memory.

Now I realize Dad has always stood steady beneath me as one.

Materials:

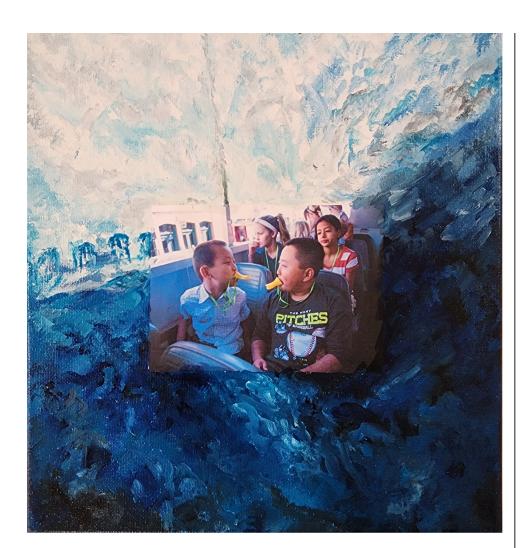
Burnt Sienna, Payne's Gray oil paint, et at.; liquin mixed in as a thinner for underpainting

Process(es):

Pencil sketch; oil underpainting then layered using "fat over lean" principle

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Selected Works

Height: 10

Width: 10

Idea(s):

Blue - my first favorite color. Meng - my first best friend. This piece honors that unwavering bond.

Materials:

Two blue oil paints with galkyd medium to increase gloss and enhance the dreamlike quality

Process(es):

Bold impasto strokes add texture, movement, sense of fluidity to the piece, alluding to boat trip

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Selected Works

Height: 20

Width: 10

Idea(s):

Zhuazhou: A child's future imagined through chosen objects. Inspired by S.

Plath's "The Bell Jar."

Materials:

Oil paint creates ethereal focus; gold leaf depicts endless future paths branching from objects

Process(es):

Saw similarity to tree form in first draft, and revised canvas size to fit new idea and sketch

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):



Selected Works

Height: 9

Width: 12

Idea(s):

A feeling of autumn that surpassed memory's borders, linking me to my younger self.

Materials:

Watercolor for underpainting then layered with green, yellow, orange, gray, red oil paints for tone

Process(es):

Quick, meaningful, and impressionistic strokes to evoke the vibrancy and movement in the environment

Use of Digital Tool(s): No

Citation(s):