Sam Rankin

Key works - Digital
My Practice

Alongside my traditional practice, I maintain a distinct digital illustration practice. Though the work varies in theme and mood, most of it combines text and image in some way. Comic art is a strong interest of mine, and it makes up the majority of the work shared here.

Some artists who have directly influenced my work are: Lynda Barry, Matt Groening, and Peyton Stotelmyre.
The largest digital project that I undertook in my undergraduate years is an epic comic narrative, *Prosabina*. The story center around a young girl, Nina, and her struggle against a cruel, child-kidnapping demoness. In 2019, I organized a group show in the Minibox gallery in which I presented the work-in-progress and sold “zine” versions at the reception. I have included an excerpt of the work here.
PROLOGUE.
BEGGA, BEGGA, IT'S OK.
I PROMISE.
WHAT DID YOU DO TO DADDY?

I PROMISE.
PLEASE DON'T RUN.
OR ME.

OK.
OK.

I LOVE YOU, BEGGA.

OK.

AND TELL YOUR SISTER THAT...

NOW GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM AND STAY THERE.

WELL...
"TELL HER I'M COOKING A ROAST."

CHAPTER ONE.
The Curse
Editorial Comics

From 2019-2020, I served as Art Director of the Daily Nexus (UCSB student newspaper). I frequently illustrated the paper’s weekly “Comics and Art” section.
COLLEGE STARTER

Pokémon

STUDY
SLEEP
FRIENDS

RIGORIZZ

STUDY
SLEEP
FRIENDS

TORTIRE

STUDY
SLEEP
FRIENDS

BRUHEEZE
REJECTED ISLA VISTA MURALS

DANNY DEVITO MERMAID

SEA TURTLE CHOKING ON TRASH

404 ERROR
MURAL NOT PAINTED
TOO BUSY DROWNING IN STUDENT LOAN DEBT

UCPD WHISTLEBLOWER

META MURAL
There’s just no one to shit on anymore.
ODE TO A DIE TABLE

Oh, memory, recall the Thomas fire:
(You freshmen, just imagine what you know):
The sky burned red, the ash and smoke grew dire
‘Till Chancellor Yang rethought and let us go.

As fast as we flew out, the memes poured in;
Each one stamped with the face of Chancellor Yang.
A symbol of our school, as seen on pins -
Like our raccoon, or Storke, or biking lanes.

Now on DP, a proud die table boasts
That famous face, split open in a grin.
The tower, like a scepter, stands and roasts
While in the blaze we wait upon his whim.

And if it comes again, some great disaster,
Better not to end in fire, but laughter.
Editorial Illustration

Recently, I created logos for the various sections that make up the *Daily Nexus*. I have included some of the strongest examples here.
THE LABYRINTH
DAILY NEXUS

SOCIAL MEDIA
DAILY NEXUS

ARTSWECK
DAILY NEXUS