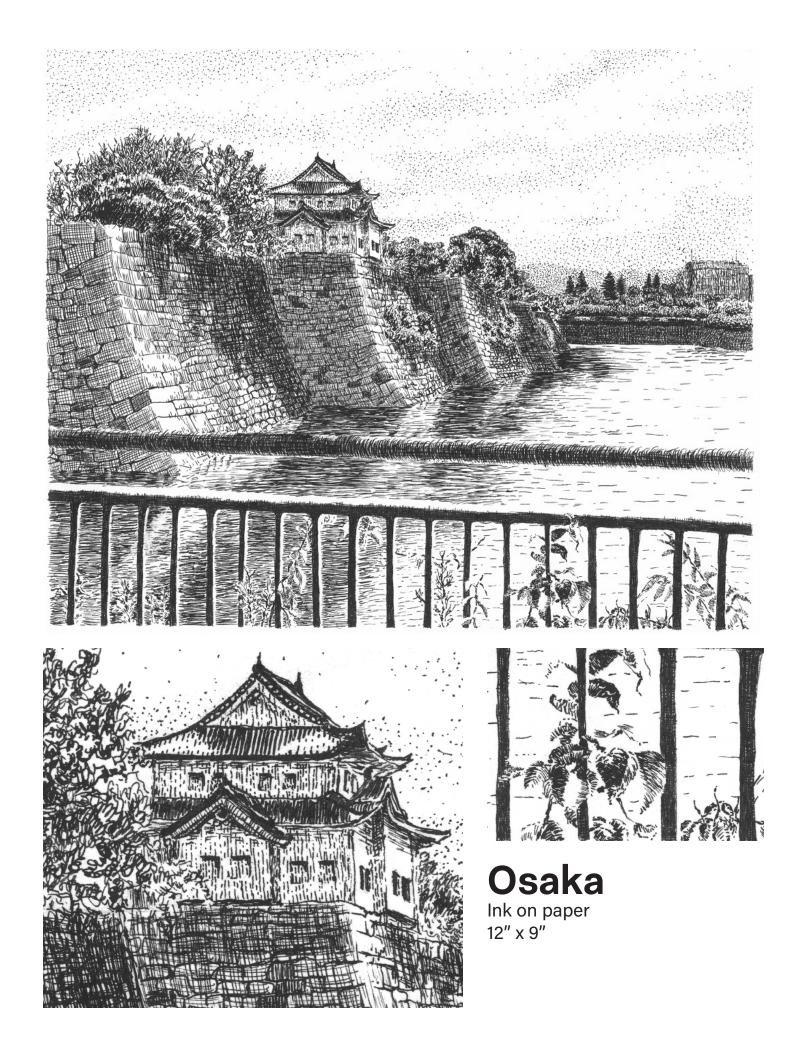
2021 Senior Exhibition Alex Schwartzberg UCSB

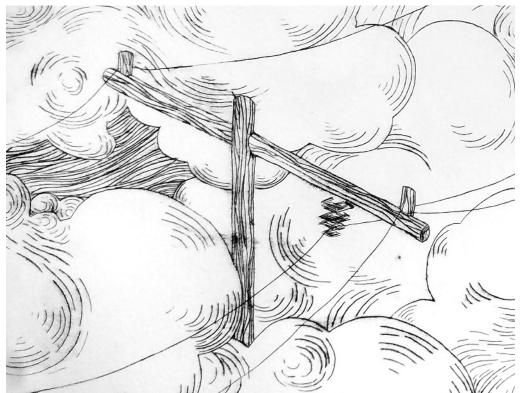
When I began my time at UCSB, I was convinced that I had to make a point with my art. That every piece had to be a carefully constructed metaphor with a larger goal of convincing or educating the viewer. As time went on and I learned more about artistic techniques, I became less focused on trying to articulate a clear symbolic message and more on sensations. I'm easily moved by everyday occurrences: a glimpse into an apartment window, a brief potential connection with a stranger, or just a ray of light hitting a corner in a certain way can make me disproportionately emotional. In my paintings and other artwork, I've been exploring ways to capture these moments and hopefully impart a fraction of the feeling that I get from them.

Another theme that's become more prominent in my art over the last four years is technology. Two of my paintings, *Amtrak* and *Delta Airlines*, were painted entirely digitally in Photoshop. My digital projects, which are linked as videos, explore the connection between the physical world and more abstract digital visuals. *Ghost Town* and *Under Construction* are both collage-based works that use graphics from archived Geocities websites. These old websites are a longtime fascination of mine, since most of them are remnants of amateur sites created in the early days of the Internet, and seeing them still functional and unchanging is a little like bumping into a ghost on the street. Finding an album full of a stranger's wedding photos was particularly strange and exciting for me, and I wanted to memorialize it in an even more permanent physical way in *Under Construction*.

During my time here, I've learned so much not only about artmaking, but also about seeing the world in a different way. I hope that my artworks can open a new window for you as well, even if it's a small one.







Telephone Wire 12" x 9" Plexiglass etching



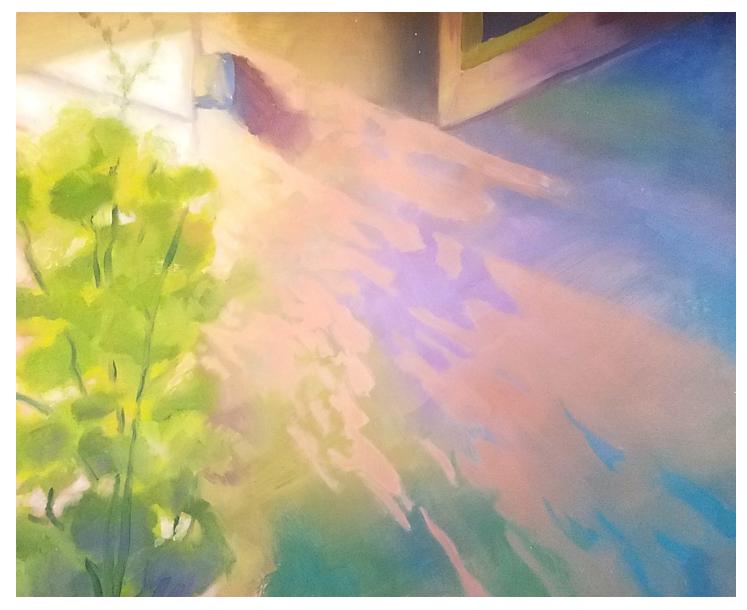
Wildfire triptych A set of paintings based on photographs taken during the Thomas fire, in an effort to encapsulate my combination of fear and fascination with the natural disaster.







Wildfire 2 Oil on panel 24" x 19.5"



Wildfire 3 Oil on panel 24" x 19.5"



Woman with Bird

Water-based oil on canvas 16" x 20"



IL TOTAL

Under Construction

Laser-cut plexiglass print and plexiglass etching 12" x 9"

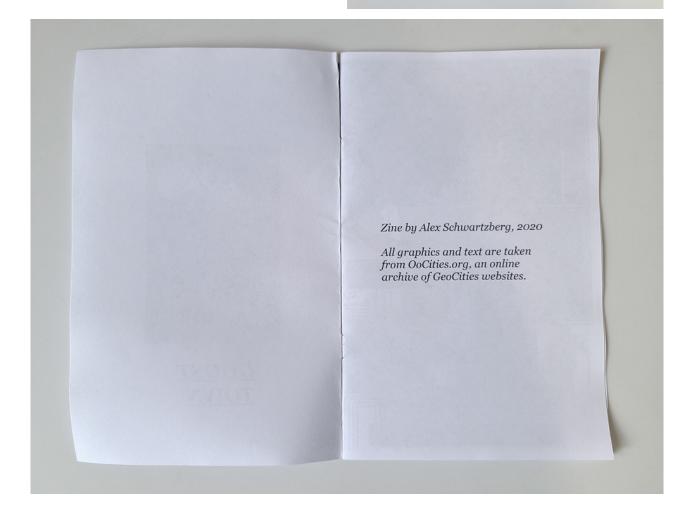
The first layer of this print series is a collage of graphics from archived Geocities websites, while the second layer uses lineart traced from an unlabeled album of a stranger's wedding photos found online.

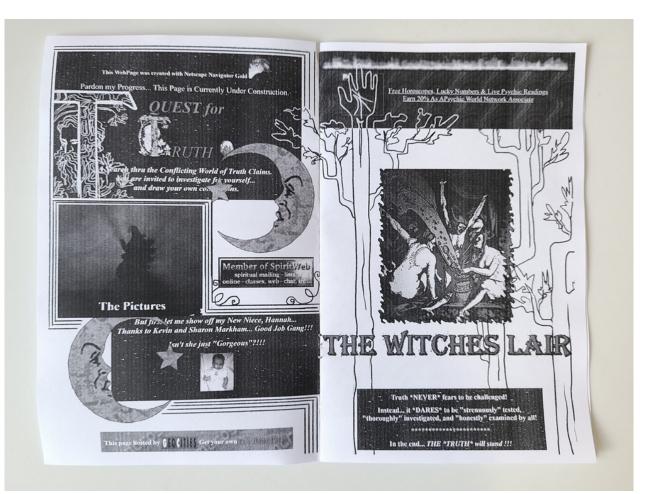
Ghost Town

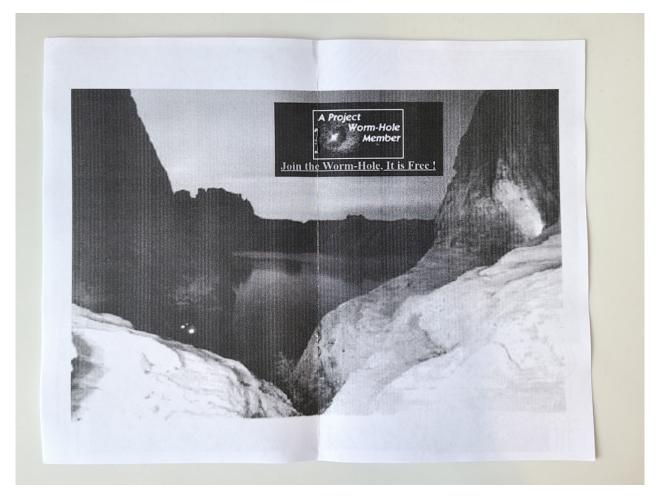
Printed zine on paper 5.5 x 8.5"

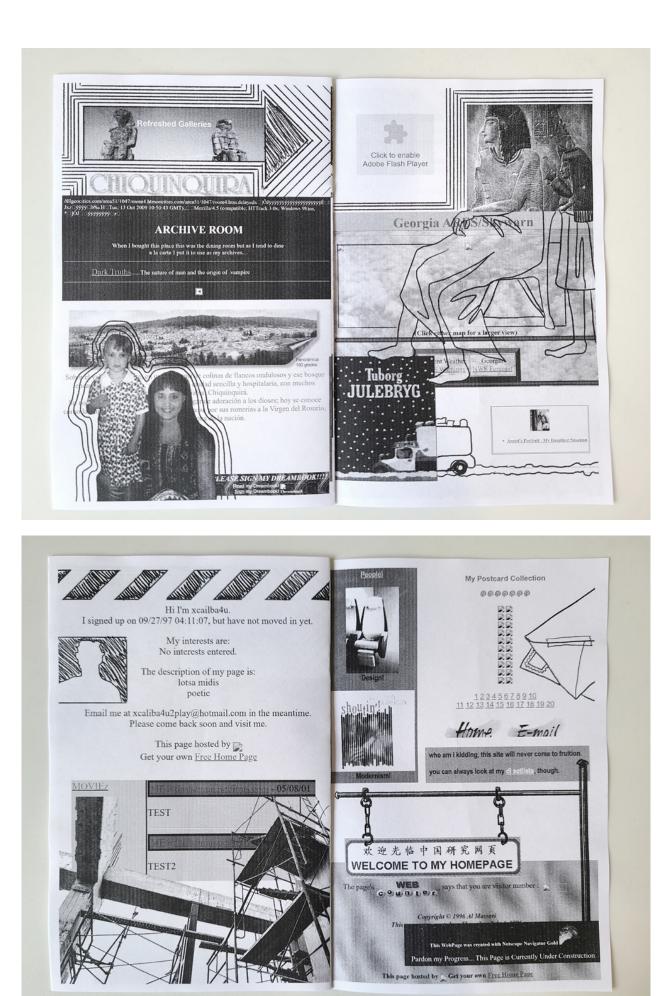
Ghost Town continues my exploration of Geocities graphics in zine format, creating something like a tribute to the digital ephemera preserved on the internet.

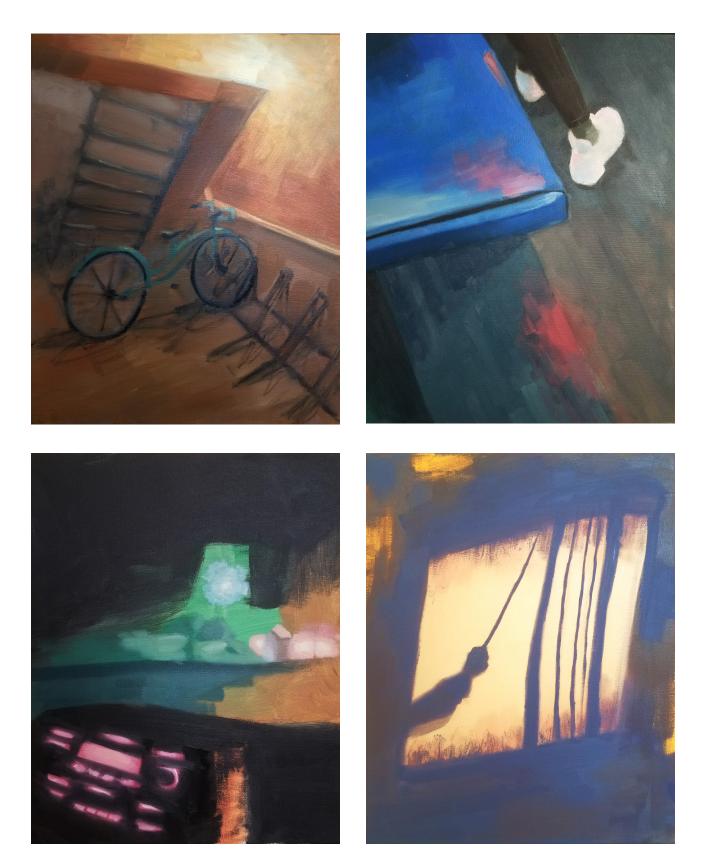




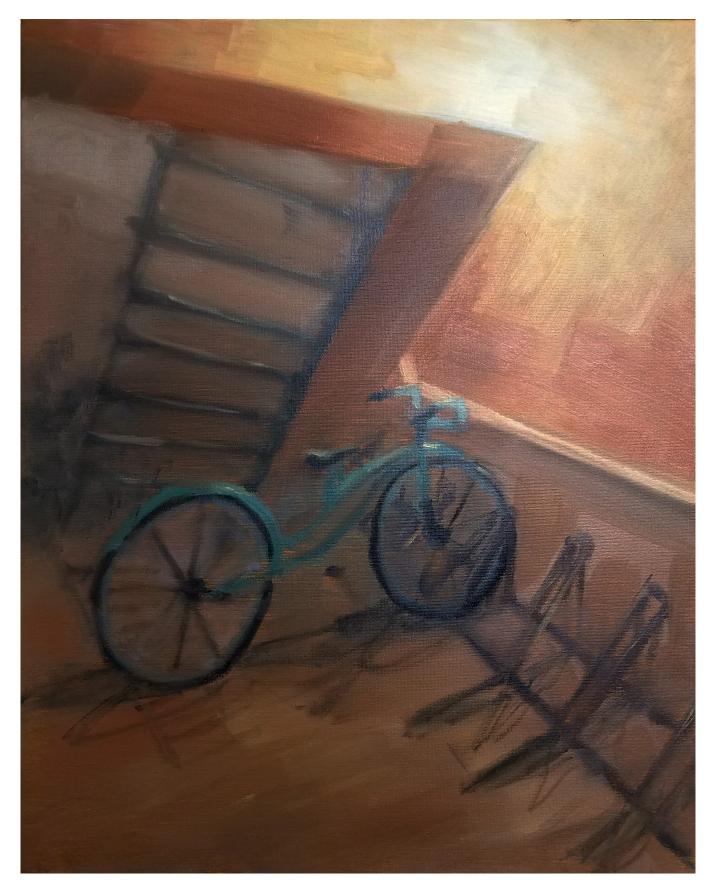




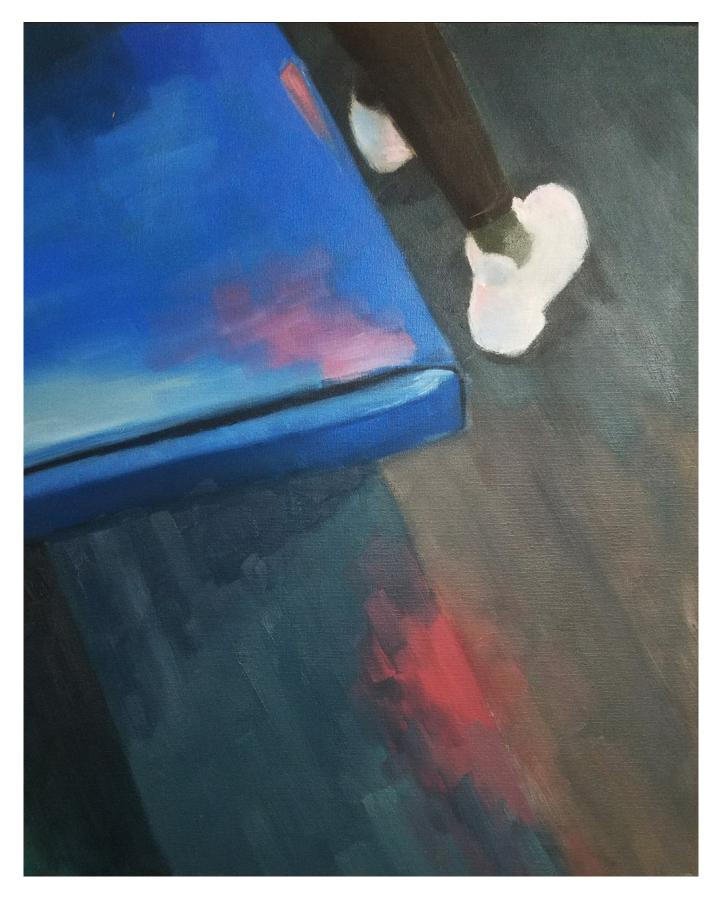




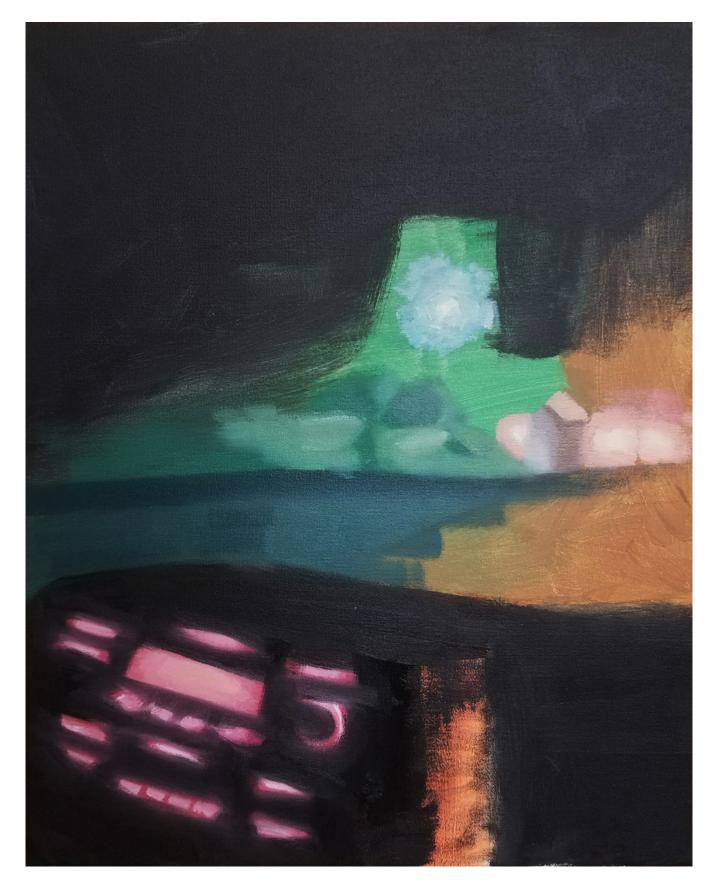
Light series A series of paintings inspired by artificial and natural light, and how they interact with our manmade world.



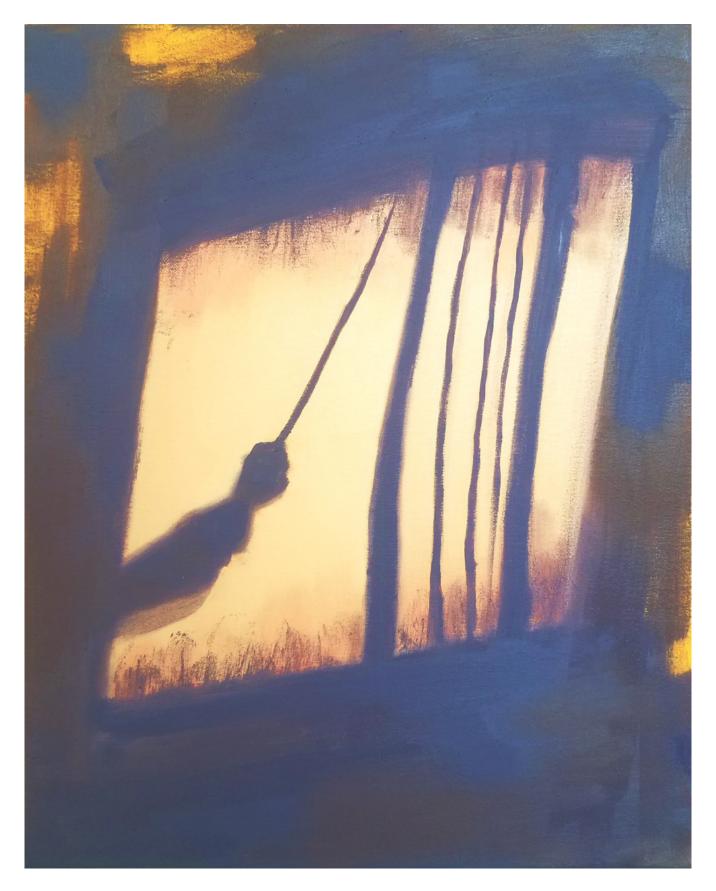
Light 1 Water-based oil on canvas 16" x 20"



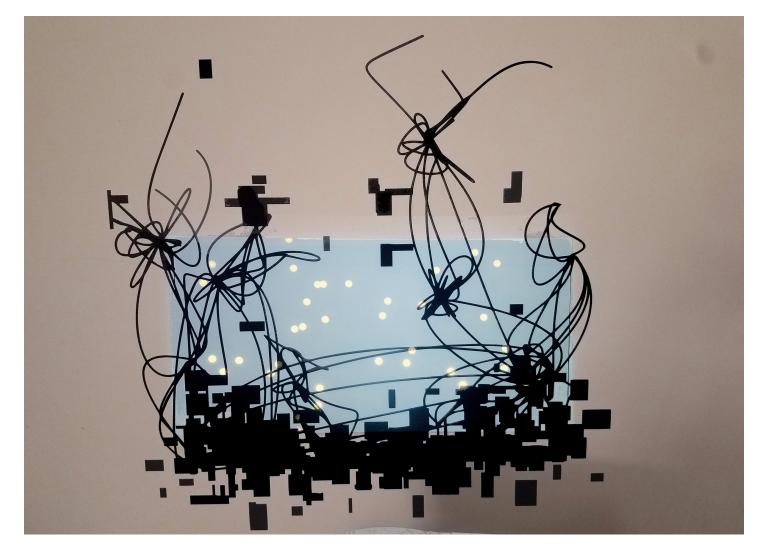
Light 2 Water-based oil on canvas 16"x20"



Light 3 Water-based oil on canvas 16" x 20"



Light 4 Water-based oil on canvas 16" x 20"





Fireflies

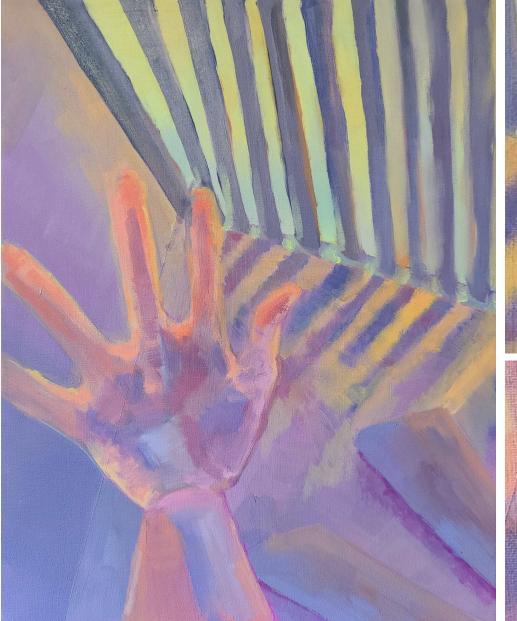
Cut vinyl and live digital projection Link to video

This piece was a live interactive projection over a vinyl cut of a computer-generated graphic, and recorded in video format at the link above.

Responsive Glove Fabric, conductive thread, hardware interface,

Fabric, conductive thread, hardware interface, and digital display Link to video

This glove was hand-sewn with fabric and conductive thread, then wired to provide input to an interactive digital display.

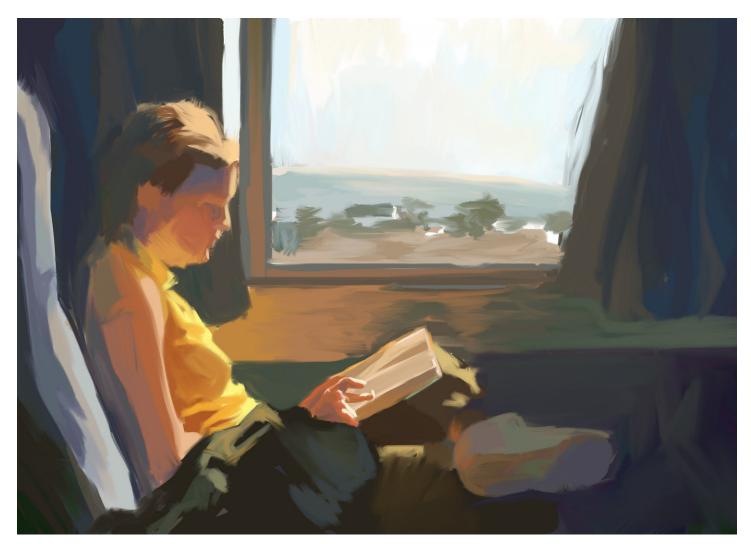






Bedroom Ceiling Water-based oil on canvas

16" x 20"



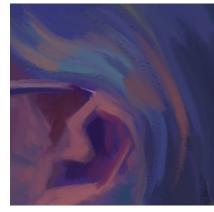




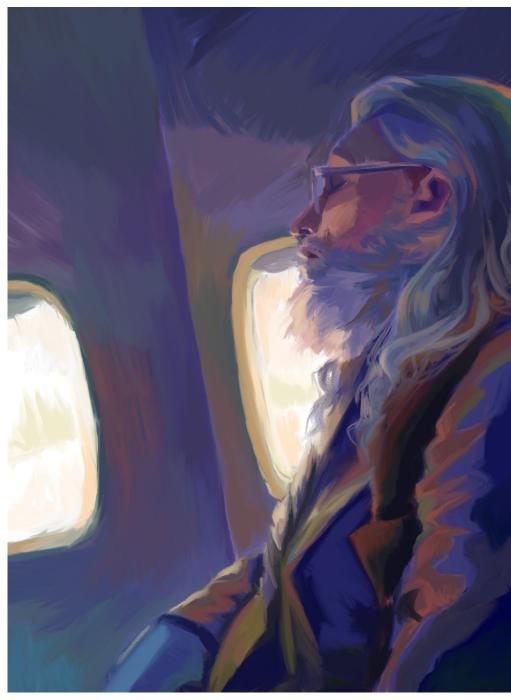












Delta Airlines Digital media