

One Cannot Exist Without the Other

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When starting the folio, I did not have a clear idea in mind, I had planned to initially test various ideas until an idea I resonated with worked. Due to the fact I had no initial direction I explored general themes and ideas I found appealing off aesthetic elements alone or the symbolism behind them. This would first draw me to try and choose some art movements to focus on such as impressionism and art baroque. The artists I explored within these movements would include, Johannes Vermeer and Rembrandt. I started to generate ideas based on my first idea generation page to explore different compositions. I settled on a more 'opposite' type composition, where the characters would mirror each other in a sense, only opposite. They could be described as an angel and a demon both placed on opposite ends of the canvas, one with a primarily white colour scheme (angel,) and one with a red/black colour scheme (demon.) The premise of the idea on paper was that they completed each other in a way, because each of their elements would slot into the other; for example, the flow of the fabric on the demon was there to carve out the hair or the face of the angel. Some parts of this idea however may have been lost throughout the process of the painting itself, but it could be loosely seen within the sketches for the final.

The symbolism intended through this was 'one cannot exist without the other' representing the moral construction of good and evil. But this idea can be twisted and interpreted through the eyes of different audience's own interpretations. I also included a subtle piece of symbolism in the painting to add to the character design, as the shape of the subjects' wings carve out a small horn, representative of the demon, on their head; and the clothes on the demon included a line showing the halo on the angel's head. This was a more subtle piece of symbolism that I wanted to include as a more personal touch. For this idea, previously influenced by the art movements I had looked at, I used oil paints. I also wanted to use the opportunity to explore my painting skills and how I could use and create colours to fit my own art aesthetic.

Throughout the process I had learned and experimented more with my painting skills and how colour works within oil paints. I had set out with the aim to make a final piece I could be proud of, as with previous years there were always some things, I was never happy with within my final pieces. With this piece I would say I'm happy with the result as I was able to expand my horizons and explore things I had not previously tried. If I were to repeat this process, I could spend more time exploring the lighting and shadows within the painting, as I think those types of effects would help tie everything together.